

Law Enforcement News

Vol. XXIX, Nos. 609, 610

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

November 15/30, 2003

In this issue:

Around The Nation: A coast-to-coast roundup of police news. Pages 2, 3.

People & Places: Robo cop; crossing the pond; drawing card; it's time to go; Chicago PD has its Phil; Potter's field in Portland. Page 4.

Major-city pink slips: Chiefs are unceremoniously bounced in Portland & Dallas. Page 5.

Added incentive: St. Pete tries to keep its cops closer to home. Page 5.

Growth industry: First half of 2003 brings spike in violence. Page 6.

Keeping track: Washington court curbs GPS use in tailing suspects. Page 6.

Sparkle & shine: South Carolina depulies strut their stuff in beauty-pageant fundraiser. Page 6.

Poking holes: Probers find it's easy to get licenses using fake ID's. Page 7.

Different strokes: State & local cops in Alaska differ on pot busts. Page 7.

Short Takes: Easy-to-swallow news capsules. Page 7.

A bit too personal: Bidding "adios" to Latino database. Page 8.

Fit to be tied: Ulah union rejects a compromise on fitness standards. Page 8.

Arresting development: What to do about collars made by uncertified Idaho cops? Page 8.

Forum: Local police shouldn't perform immigration duties; one-stop shopping for terrorism screening. Page 9.

Scams, not lassos: Modern rustlers have South Dakota ranchers reeling. Page 11.

Upcoming Events: Opportunities for professional development. Page 11.

Lock & load

Police execs concerned at continued growth of concealed weapons laws

By Jennifer Nislow

With eight hours of instruction and a clean police record, any Missourian age 21 or older can now carry a concealed weapon. The state was one of four to pass such legislation this year — despite the wishes of the Show Me State's voting public — and while considered a victory long sought by gun-rights advocates, opponents point to provisions not found in older statutes which indicate greater moderation in these new laws.

Missouri is the 45th state to permit the carrying of concealed weapons in some fashion. Passage of the law was hard fought on both sides and only came about because state lawmakers successfully overrode Gov. Bob Holden's veto in September. It also reverses the outcome of a voter referendum on the issue in 1999, in which 52 percent of the voters rejected the right to carry concealed weapons.

The override was expected to take effect on Oct. 15. In the meantime, more than 60,000 residents were expected to apply for permits beginning Oct. 11. Sheriff's departments will bear the burden of issuing licenses. To be approved, applicants must pass a background check and complete an eight-hour training course from an instructor certified by the National Rifle Association or a government agency.

Jim Vermeersch, executive director of the Missouri Sheriffs' Association, said the organization will be developing a standard application form and certificate that can be used once the

program begins. Official documents noting a concealed weapon permit on a driver's license will not be available until July 1. An issue that still needs to be resolved by the state Department of Revenue, however, is that while permits are good for three years, driver's licenses are valid for six years.

"Getting everyone trained in this length of time is going to be rough," Vermeersch told The Associated Press. "We have to balance getting the

Police question whether eight hours of training is enough for those seeking concealed-weapons permits.

job done as fast as we can versus getting it done so that we don't make [a] mistake and somebody gets hurt."

The state's chiefs association officially took a neutral position on the law, although individual chiefs registered their strong opposition to it. Among those was Kansas City Chief Rick Easley.

"His feelings are he doesn't relish the thought of more guns being on the street, he has concerns for the safety of children, and also concerns about the quality of training people may have before

they do this," Capt. Rich Lockhart, an agency spokesman, told Law Enforcement News. "He just thinks this is not the best thing to be doing."

Eight hours of instruction is not enough for people who could potentially face life-or-death decisions, said Lockhart. Police receive 108 hours of training at the academy, and then an additional four hours each year. And it is unlikely, he added, that civilians consider the aftermath of fatally shooting someone, such as liability.

"It seems like just about every time we shoot somebody we get sued," said Lockhart. "Certainly that can happen to a private citizen."

Another concern is that criminals will often try to take away a gun. If they do it to police, said Lockhart, they will do it to citizens, too. "If you're not properly trained on how to retain your weapon, or afraid to use it if you're in that situation, you could end up on the wrong side of it yourself."

Under the law, applicants must learn basic safety and storage, how to load and unload a weapon, how to fire revolvers and semiautomatics, and where they may and may not carry a concealed weapon. They also must fire at least 50 rounds at a range and hit a life-size silhouette at least 15 times from a distance of seven yards.

The bill would prohibit concealed weapons at such places as police stations, secured areas at airports, and casinos. It would, however, allow them in schools and child-care facilities with

Continued on Page 10

Agency consolidation plans weigh whether one head is better than two

City and county residents in jurisdictions nationwide say they want to see police and sheriff's deputies driving in the same color cars, and wearing the same color uniforms — in other words, consolidated into a single agency.

In Knox County and Knoxville, Tenn., a telephone survey in August found respondents overwhelming in favor of an elected "top cop," should the two governments be unified.

The poll was the latest in a series conducted by the University of

Tennessee's Social Science Research Institute. Between Aug. 3 and Aug. 24, 462 people in the city and 368 in the county were canvassed as to whether they were in favor of a consolidated government and an elected law enforcement leader.

Fifty-two percent of county residents said they favored unification, as did 56 percent of city respondents. Of those, more than 79 percent said they supported the election of a top cop.

A similar study released in August by a Teton County, Wyo., sheriff's cap-

tain, Jim Whalen, found that 75 percent of Jackson residents and 84 percent of those living outside of town boundaries supported unification of the area's two law enforcement agencies.

The survey, which was conducted as a project for Whalen's online master's program at Michigan State University, has bolstered the view of Mayor Mark Barron and County Commission Chairman Bill Paddleford, both of whom support consolidation as a way of saving money and streamlining service.

"Obviously, as demands grow on

our local government services, we have to become more and more creative," Barron told The Jackson Hole News & Guide. "There's only so much money that's going to go around."

Of the \$29.2 million the county plans to spend in 2004, the sheriff's office accounts for \$4.7 million. The budget of the Jackson police force accounts for \$2.1 million of the \$9.7 that the town plans to spend in its "general fund."

As important, both Barron and Paddleford note, consolidation would clear up issues concerning jurisdiction. At present, officers can only be cross-deputized for specific events, making it difficult for them to support deputies in emergencies.

Police Chief Peggy Parker, however, said the survey is just the first step in a long conversation with the community. Parker's agency would most likely be absorbed into the sheriff's department, said Whalen, because unlike police agencies, sheriff's offices are required by state law.

"This is an opinion poll, and while very well done...it's kind of like sending the jury into deliberations on a case they don't know the facts about," Parker told The News & Guide.

After more than a year of discussion, the police departments of Wrightsville Borough, Hallam Borough and Hellam Township in York County, Pa., were

Continued on Page 10

Helping first-response cops do the right thing when human organs are at stake

Although it is required under state law, first responders in California do not always inform the coroner that the victim of a fatal accident wished to be an organ donor. So the Pleasanton Police Department, at a citizen's urging, is developing a new policy that would make it standard operating procedure.

Major organs are no longer fresh and usable for transplantation in the time it takes for a coroner to get to the scene. But there are other tissues, including the eyes, corneas, joints, heart valves, bone products and arteries, which can be recovered up to 10 or 12 hours after death, even without life support.

"Organ and tissue donation are both things that are important for law enforcement personnel to be aware of," said Mary Wallace, a spokeswoman for the California Organ Transplant Network, in an interview with Law Enforcement News. "I think that law enforcement has a particular role to play because they are questioned on things like this. There is a prevalent myth in the community that if you have a donor organ sticker on your driver's license, people won't work as hard to save you...when you think about it from a law enforcement perspective, it comes from a mistrust of law enforcement and

medical personnel in general."

Last year, 18-year-old Allan Clark-Caudle of Pleasanton was killed in a drunken driving accident. Just three months prior to his death, he had filled out the necessary paperwork to become an organ donor. But those organs that might have been recovered never were because Clark-Caudle was pronounced dead at the scene.

"He would be furious," said his mother, Dana Clark, who contacted local police to find out their policy on handling fatal accident victims.

The call led to a conference among the department, a registered nurse work-

ing with the California Transplant Donor Network, employees of the American Medical Response — an ambulance company — and officials from the Alameda County Coroner's Office.

Under the policy that came out of that meeting, officers will continue to look for the sticker, and notify the coroner when they call that the victim is a candidate. The protocol would only take effect, however, in the case of accidents. By law, police may only look for donor cards or stickers when no foul play is involved.

"Myself and many other people

Continued on Page 11

Around the Nation

Northeast



CONNECTICUT — In order to obtain a driver's license when he lived in Florida, James Perry stole the identity of a neighbor, Robert Kowalski, who turned out to be a convicted sex offender. Sometime after he subsequently moved to Connecticut, Perry was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge and a computer check found that he, as "Kowalski," was a convicted sex offender from Michigan who had not registered with the state. A fingerprint check cleared up the mistaken identity, but Perry now faces charges of criminal impersonation, identity theft and forgery.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Overruling a trial board, Police Chief Charles H. Ramsey has fired police officers Jeri Butler and Justine Tolson, who are both accused of failing to pick up 911 calls during a fatal house fire. The two were working at the call center on Jan. 15 when a fire killed 24-year-old Christopher Smith. The trial board found that the officers did not answer calls for eight minutes that night but noted that they had otherwise clean records and recommended suspension. Ramsey, however, reversed the decision and fired them, sparking anger from the police union.

MARYLAND — Seat Pleasant Police Chief Ronald C. Forrest, 39, was arrested on Sept. 25 on federal charges of enticing a minor to have sex and producing pornographic photos of the youth. The FBI was said to have been tipped off by an informant who provided a photo album allegedly from the chief's home and information about a minor who spent a week in his house in July. The minor met with authorities and identified himself in several photos in the album. He told investigators that Forrest performed oral sex on him and paid him to take pictures of his own genitals.

NEW HAMPSHIRE — The New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council voted to strip Wilton police Sgt. Richard Turgeon of his credentials after he admitted to smoking marijuana with former chief Robert Maguire. Turgeon, who told investigators that he felt pressure from Maguire to smoke the weed, is the third commanding officer to step down this year from the troubled department. Maguire and Deputy Chief James Greene both resigned following a criminal investigation. Maguire is serving a suspended sentence after pleading guilty to marijuana possession and criminal threatening.

NEW JERSEY — The (Bergen) Sunday Record reported Sept. 28 that 80 percent of the officers in the Bergen County Police Department will make salaries exceeding \$100,000 this year, excluding overtime. Median earnings for the officers are projected at \$100,905 and the four captains are expected to earn \$136,000. Although the

department defends their pay on the grounds that officers are cross-trained in a number of law enforcement specialties, critics say the salaries are a signal to revise arbitration rules.

On Sept. 22, Gov. James McGreevey signed a bill into law that will impose a \$2 surcharge on traffic tickets to fund the collection of DNA samples from all convicted criminals in the state. The surcharge, which is expected to raise about \$8.2 million a year, will pay for a team of 40 scientists to conduct the processing. The new hires will also decrease the time it takes for crime scene evidence to be analyzed from 210 days to 30 days. Previously, DNA samples were only collected from individuals convicted of sex crimes, homicides and kidnappings.

State Attorney General Peter Harvey told the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People recently that the State Police has increased minority representation in its higher ranks by 25 percent. Minorities now account for 13 of the 59 highest ranking officers. Five of the top ranking officers are women and the agency's Superintendent, Col. Joseph Fuentes, is Hispanic.

NEW YORK — Although law enforcement officials say they have not gotten any specific threats, the New York City Police Department has created a special unit designed to prevent terrorist attacks at city schools. A story in The New York Post earlier this year reported that an Al Qaeda training exercise that took place in Afghanistan practiced storming a school and shooting children.

Although he has since married his young lover, New York Police Officer Matthew DeGennaro, 32, is facing felony charges for having sex with a then 17-year-old girl and taking explicit photos of the trysts. DeGennaro met the girl at an Oregon high school where he had traveled at his own expense to talk about his experiences at Ground Zero. The affair was uncovered when the girl's mother found photographs of the two and turned them over to the FBI.

New York City's top uniformed officer, Chief of Department Joseph Esposito, pulled the police escort assigned to Bruce Springsteen after the singer performed a song about police shooting victim Amadou Diallo at a concert at Shea Stadium on Oct. 1. The song, "American Skin (41 Shots)," was not included in the next two shows, and the security escort was restored for Springsteen for his tour-ending concert on Oct. 4.

PENNSYLVANIA — Erie police arrested Marjorie E. Diehl-Armstrong, 52, after a body believed to be the man she lived with, James Roden, was found in a freezer. Police were led to the body by William Rothstein, who alleges that he was paid \$2,000 by Diehl-Armstrong to help her hide the body, clean up her apartment and get rid of a shotgun. She had recently filed a protection-from-abuse order against Roden. Diehl-Armstrong had been acquitted in the 1988 homicide of her then-boyfriend, Robert Thomas, after testifying that she had to shoot him before he killed her. She claims that she only discovered the body and that Rothstein committed the murder.

Southeast



FLORIDA — The Polk County Sheriff's Office has upgraded its Web site, adding features that include updated information on drug-related crimes, a database for residents to check the status of civil matters, information about career criminals, a crime prevention newsletter and safety tips for residents.

The St. Petersburg City Council passed an emergency ordinance Sept. 30 to block a rock concert that planned to feature the onstage suicide of a terminally ill fan. The performance by the band Hell on Earth, which was intended to make a statement supporting euthanasia, was originally set for the State Theatre but one of the venue's owners canceled the performance when the police warned him that it could inspire copycats and incite the crowd out of control.

A Largo police officer was placed on administrative leave with pay in late September and faces termination after being accused of making an inappropriate racial comment. Police Chief Lester Aradi said that the veteran officer, whom he declined to identify, had been under investigation for making rude comments to a resident in an unrelated case.

GEORGIA — Gwinnett County is the first county in the state to take advantage of a new law that allows the use of inmates to paint over graffiti on private property. Gang graffiti will be painted over first, county officials said.

Kevin Bailey, 17, of Fort Benning was arrested after school officials alerted police to items that were found in his locker, including hate-related material, a bomb-making instruction manual, and a "device" with a concealed razor blade. School officials searched the locker after fellow students of Bailey's became fearful of his behavior. He had apparently showed up at school sporting swastika symbols and anti-police phrases on his clothing.

LOUISIANA — Residents who live near a vacant house close to Alexandria Senior High School were jolted on Sept. 27 by a blast that shook windows. Some people evacuated their homes before learning that it was part of a training exercise sponsored by the U.S. Marshals Service and attended by Rapides Parish sheriff's deputies.

NORTH CAROLINA — Gov. Mike Easley has signed a law that would regulate privately run dog-detector companies and allow the dog handlers to keep small amounts of drugs on hand for training purposes. The dog handlers must inventory their drugs and keep them in a cabinet equipped with a 24-hour alarm system. To possess controlled substances, they must still register with the federal government.

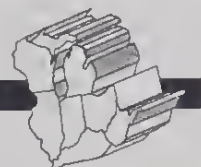
The North Carolina Center for Missing Persons will work with the Kernersville Police Department in January to train other area law enforcement personnel in better ways to find missing people.

Police will be trained in the use of the Amherst Alert system and the Locator software program developed by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The Kernersville department is also updating its Web site in order to make missing-person information available online.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Aiken County sheriff's Cpl. Kim Siever was "nailed" while responding to a complaint of vandalism. The tires on Siever's cruiser will need to be replaced after he drove over roofing nails that were spread over a private residential street. Residents gave authorities the name of a man who moved away from the area after breaking up with his girlfriend and losing his mobile home in a foreclosure. Neighbors say he appeared "mad at the world."

VIRGINIA — Russell Ebersole, a dog trainer, was convicted on 27 counts of fraud and sentenced to six and a half years on Sept. 8 after making \$700,000 leasing bomb-sniffing dogs to several federal agencies in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. His contracts were cancelled after his dogs failed several independent tests. In one, the dogs could not detect 15 pounds of C-4 plastic explosives or 50 pounds of hidden dynamite.

Midwest



ILLINOIS — In Alton, an arbitrator has decided to throw out the city's longstanding residency requirement for police officers. The new policy requires that police live within 15 miles of the police headquarters and in Illinois. Although the city was against the change, Alton Personnel Director David Miles said that the change will increase the pool of potential hires.

Chicago police have arrested four men on charges of drug possession after finding an estimated \$39 million in cocaine stashed in a shipment of guacamole from Mexico. After a tip, narcotics investigators intercepted 180 buckets of the avocado dip and then found another 760 tubs in warehouse space rented by the group's ringleader. In all, 26,000 pounds of guacamole had to be destroyed.

The FBI arrested two Illinois state parole agents, three police officers, two Cook County sheriff's deputies and a former Seattle, Wash., police detective in a series of drug stings dubbed Operation Blue Steal. In the sting, an informant working undercover for the FBI told the officers where they could find a car owned by a drug dealer. The officers would then break into the car, keeping any cash they found, and giving the cocaine to the informant.

INDIANA — Vanderburgh County Prosecutor Stan Levco remains skeptical over a claim made by a convicted murderer that he has killed as many as 13 other women. Joseph Weldon Brown, who is currently serving a life sentence for the 2000 murder of Ginger Gasaway, claimed that he killed the other women between 1995 and 2000. He killed Gasaway in a fit of anger because she had gone back to her estranged husband. He then dismembered

her body and scattered parts in bags and boxes across three counties. Levco said that while Brown is certainly capable of the other murders, he has yet to ID any of the other victims.

MICHIGAN — Kevin Walters resigned as South Rockwood's police chief in October, shortly after he pleaded no contest Oct. 13 to a charge of willful neglect of duty. The plea stemmed from a July 25 incident in which he agreed to pay a teenager \$20 for a sex act and later tried to mislead 911 operators about shooting the teen's friend, who allegedly tried to rob the chief. The two teens face charges of assault with intent to rob while armed, and face life imprisonment if convicted.

Detroit police arrested a 33-year-old man, said to be a convicted sex offender, in connection with the discovery behind a gas station of body parts from at least two different people. Police said that more body parts were found in his home following the Sept. 24 arrest. A police spokesperson said the bodies at the gas station were discovered by a man who called police with his findings; a subsequent tip led police to the suspect's home.

The FBI is investigating several suspicious devices found inside the Ice Mountain water-bottling plant's pumping station in Martiny Township. Officials from the Michigan State Police bomb squad, which was among several emergency crews that responded, would not comment on whether the devices were explosives. Water at the plant showed no signs of tampering.

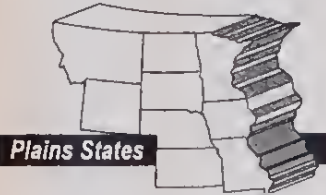
OHIO — The Columbus Division of Police released data in September showing that of all days of the week, Mondays typically have the largest number of serious crimes. Although Mondays did not have the highest rate for each category, it had the highest combined number, with thefts moving the day into the lead spot. Detective Jim Spragg of the auto-theft squad speculated that people might be reporting the crimes after sobering up from the weekends. Tom Smith, a police crime analyst, added that criminals might give themselves a break for the weekend.

A melee broke out at a Columbus homicide scene on Sept. 23 when one of the victim's relatives rushed through the crime-scene tape. The two officers who were present responded with pepper spray and called for backup. When the officers tackled the woman, the crowd reacted violently, punching each other and charging at police. At the end of the altercation, five people were in handcuffs. Although a cause of death has not been determined in the case of 18-year-old John Garner, police said that he was dead when they arrived on the scene.

The city of Toledo and community activists have reached an agreement that will end federal court oversight of the police department. In 1974, a federal judge approved an agreement after lawyers representing minority applicants who were turned down for police jobs sued the department over its hiring practices. At the time, the police department was 6.1 percent black and less than a tenth of a percent Hispanic. Today, blacks and Hispanics represent 18.5 percent and 7 percent of the department, respectively.

Coming Up in December:
The special Year-in-Review issue of Law Enforcement News. Stay tuned.

WISCONSIN — A review performed by The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel found that Milwaukee's Fire and Police Commission has only taken disciplinary action in three of the 712 citizen complaints filed with the commission about police in the past 10 years. Although officials said that the number is a reflection of a successful mediation process, critics say that the commission is reluctant to punish police.



IOWA — Officials from the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and the Iowa Homeland Security Emergency Management Division are working with Urbandale police in investigating a theft of a 50-pound canister of methyl bromide. The deadly chemical, which is used to kill crop insects and rats, can be extremely lethal in concentrated forms.

KANSAS — Under terms of a plea agreement, Adam W. Schorger, who was arrested during the dedication of a University of Kansas facility named for former Senator Bob Dole, will have all his charges dropped if he writes a 1,000-word essay about the new Dole Institute of Politics. He has also agreed to write a letter of apology to police, stay out of trouble for a year, and pay \$192 in court costs. If he complies, authorities will drop charges of obstruction and criminal use of a weapon.

MINNESOTA — After being tipped off by Japan Airlines officials that a package from Thailand that was supposed to be clothing was in fact a coffin believed to be concealing a shipment of opium, federal agents flew to Minnesota and watched as it was picked up and brought to a home in St. Paul. Special Agent Daniel Faflak of the U. S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and a St. Paul police officer questioned the homeowner, whose husband admitted to knowing about the opium but said that he only used it for his ulcers. The coffin, he said, was for his 89-year-old mother in Alaska. Agents seized the coffin and the 15 pounds of opium, worth about \$270,000.

MISSOURI — In the wake of a deadly shooting at a local factory in which an employee killed three co-workers and injured five others before taking his own life, the state is considering changing its policy of trading in police weapons for resale. The gun used by Jonathon Russell was stamped with the State Highway Patrol's logo. It was sold to Russell in June by a dealer who had purchased it from a wholesale police supplier. The patrol, which barters its old firearms for new weapons, believes it may have saved the state about \$500,000.

Former St. Louis police officer Dennis McLin has filed a notice of appeal after being fired by the Police Board. McLin, who is black, had a controversial past and faced charges of insubordination, false reporting and failure to obey an order. McLin was previously suspended three times, demoted in rank for a year, and received written reprimands. He

was once suspended for 15 days for making comments at a workshop about "Billy Bob, tobacco-chewing white police officers." Some of his supporters saw him as a whistle-blower who spoke out about racism and police brutality.

Fifty-five St. Louis County police officers completed training to become members of the department's new Crisis Intervention Team. Eventually, the department plans to have approximately 40 percent of its 550 officers take the course, which is taught by mental-health agencies, doctors, and mentally ill people. The course is designed to teach officers how to better handle mentally ill people and get them follow-up care.

MONTANA — Fourteen Fort Peck tribal and local law-enforcement officers were sworn in recently as special deputies by U. S. Marshal Dwight McKay. The appointments, which will be in effect until August 2005, will give the deputies the ability to work closely with federal DEA and FBI agents on specific investigations. Their departments are now eligible to share in any forfeited cash or property recovered from criminal activities in which they assist.

NEBRASKA — At a recent meeting of top law enforcement officials, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft lauded Omaha Police Officer Jason Tye Pratt, who died eight days after being shot on Sept. 11 by a man who tried to flee a traffic stop. Pratt and two other officers stopped the man for driving erratically. The suspect, 21-year-old Albert Rucker, took off on foot and when the officers caught up to him, shots were fired. Rucker was also shot and died about four hours later. Pratt, 30, leaves behind a wife and two daughters, ages 8 months and 3 years.

NORTH DAKOTA — Authorities have seized about \$50,000 worth of Khat after arresting four people in two separate cases. The drug, which produces a methamphetamine-like high, has been illegal in this country since 1993.



COLORADO — On Sept. 18, hundreds of students at Colorado College in Colorado Springs staged a walkout to demand changes in the school's handling of sex assaults, after two recent reports of attacks. Students want to be notified of an attack within hours of an assault, the hiring of a sexual assault response coordinator, and the adoption by the school of a no-tolerance policy for students who are convicted of sexual assaults. Police believe the recent assaults were the work of two different attackers.

Thornton Patrol Officer Matthew Cabot, 33, faces a charge of driving under the influence, and Sgt. David Boal, 41, stands accused of obstruction of justice, following a traffic stop. Boal allegedly demanded "professional courtesy" from an Adams County patrol deputy who made the stop and said that

an arrest would end Cabot's career. Thornton Police Chief Jim Nursey has placed both officers on paid suspension while an internal investigation is conducted.

Richard P. White, a drifter who claims to have killed five prostitutes and dumped their bodies around the state, may have been a suspect police were looking at two years ago who was terrorizing prostitutes in Denver. Retired Denver police Lt. Mark Leone and Pamela Corvelli, an activist who works with prostitutes, said that this suspect stood out because he had red hair and kept weapons in his truck. A police spokesman could not confirm whether White was the suspect in the earlier incidents. White confessed to the killings after being arrested on first-degree murder in the shooting of a 27-year-old man, whose body was found at White's home. White has allegedly led police to two bodies already.

NEW MEXICO — Ten dispatchers have been hired for Albuquerque's communications center in order to help improve response time for 911 calls. The move came on the heels of Mayor Martin Chavez's pledge to add personnel after an incident on Sept. 12, in which several calls about a shooting were not answered immediately. The new hires will go through three months of on-the-job training after completing two weeks of classroom training.

TEXAS — Seventeen Corpus Christi police officers have filed a federal lawsuit against the Citgo Refining Corp., which alleges that their own attorney, Rene Rodriguez, lied to them about the settlement agreement in an earlier suit. The complaint says that Rodriguez told them that Citgo offered to settle with each for \$25,000, when in fact it offered them over \$150,000 each. The suit further alleges that Rodriguez gave state Representative Jaime Capelo, who was co-counsel for Citgo, a \$100,000 kickback. Trace Weaver, one of the officers who were exposed to a 1997 Citgo refinery explosion and whose cancer has been traced to that incident, said he was pressured to accept the settlement because he had been told he only had a year to live and wanted to make sure his family had some money.

Montgomery County voters have approved a measure that will create a new civil service system, including hiring, firing, and promotion standards, for county employees. Standards will be established and implemented by a three-member panel appointed by the Commissioners Court. Lt. Leldon Hamilton of the Deputy Sheriff's Association of Montgomery County — which started the petition to get the issue on the ballot — said that quality law enforcement candidates were going to other agencies that offered civil service protection.

Pflugerville police have issued a warning about apparent robbery attempts in which the perpetrators impersonated police officers. In addition to wearing uniforms, in at least one case the offender was driving a vehicle with emergency lights and a siren. The victim in that case had his wallet stolen after he was pulled over in his vehicle and handcuffed.

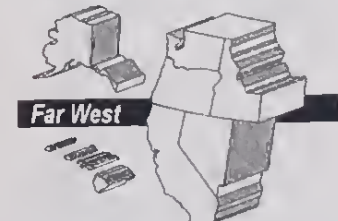
Working in concert with local businesses, governments and law enforcement agencies, the Center for Infra-

structure Assurance and Security at the University of Texas at San Antonio is testing preparedness in cases of massive communications assaults. In a recent test, dispatchers in Castle Hills took calls from a new backup facility after a situation was simulated in which there was power failure to the dispatch system caused by a cyber-attack. Balcone Heights dispatchers answered calls until they were rerouted to the new Bexar 911 Network Center in Shavano Park when Castle Hills dispatchers arrived. Each member of the new network has at least one backup center.

Five Rio Grande Valley police officers resigned in early September after failing a surprise drug test of all the city's employees. City Manager Anabel Guerra, who ordered the testing, said that the positions will remain open for now.

According to a report in The Dallas Morning News, Dallas County Sheriff Jim Bowles accepted thousands of dollars in hotel rooms, meals and airfare from a man who was later awarded the commissary contract for the jail. Bowles claims that he reimbursed the man for most of the expenses but did not keep copies of the reimbursements because he did not anticipate that anyone would question his integrity.

Lori Baker, a forensic scientist at Baylor University, has begun a project in which she will try to match the unidentified remains of about 600 as yet unidentified illegal immigrants with families from Mexico and Central America who are missing relatives. Baker will extract DNA from the remains and her husband, Erich, a computer science professor at the university, will input the information into an online, searchable database. Families of the missing will complete an online form that provides some description of the missing person. If a match is close, Baker will send the family a DNA swab kit so they can provide samples. Although the university is providing limited funding for the project, Baker will be seeking money from private foundations.



CALIFORNIA — In keeping with a new state law enacted to combat identity theft, individuals in Alameda County must submit a sworn, written statement that says they meet a number of requirements in order to obtain certified copies of death or birth certificates. Those who are eligible include legal guardians or parents, law enforcement personnel or anyone entitled under a court order. Certified birth certificates are needed to obtain such documents as Social Security cards, passports and driver's licenses, and death certificates are needed to obtain death benefits and insurance.

A measure adopted by the San Diego City Council will make it possible for people who need marijuana for medical purposes to get an identification card that will protect them from arrest. The city's Medical Cannabis Task Force has privately raised \$20,000 to cover the costs of the program, which it hopes to

have in operation within four months. The ordinance instructs police not to detain card holders for longer than it takes to verify a patient's status and further instructs them not to seize plants or marijuana if the amount is in accordance with rules.

A bill that would give children the right to have their parents present when being questioned by police in their schools was approved by the State Senate Sept. 10 by a vote of 25-to-9, and returned to the Assembly for a vote on Senate-backed amendments. The bill makes exceptions for students who are on parole or who are being questioned about a parent's alleged criminal activity. It also makes an exception when a delay in questioning would seriously hurt an investigation.

In mid-September, Los Angeles Police Chief William Bratton tried once again to quiet rumors that he would not complete his five-year contract. He said that he fully intends to fulfill the contract and meant it when he said last year that he "saved the best department for last."

OREGON — A \$525,000 project at the Warm Springs Indian Reservation will provide a 40-person transitional housing complex for victims of domestic violence. The complex is expected to be completed in the spring.

Portland Police Bureau bomb experts and the Clark County Sheriff's Office were sent to Rosemead after a small, homemade bomb exploded. A second bomb was safely detonated and no one was injured. The bomb exploded just three blocks from the site of a 1997 bombing in which 28-year-old Oleg A. Babichenko was killed by a powerful car bomb. That case has never been solved.

Gaston Police Chief Mark Lee Vuylsteke was found dead from a self-inflicted gun shot wound Sept. 11, just one day after telling city officials that he planned to resign. Vuylsteke, 42, was upset that the details of an investigation in which he had been cleared of criminal wrongdoing were going to be made public. A woman suspected of making methamphetamine and counterfeiting told investigators she was having an affair with him and trading information about crimes. Investigators concluded that the woman was trying to blackmail Vuylsteke and could find no evidence of official misconduct.

WASHINGTON — On Sept. 18, State Patrol Trooper Monica Hunter made history Sept. 18 when she was sworn in as the patrol's first black female sergeant. Hunter, 41, scored the highest grade on the sergeant's exam in May, outdoing about 200 other troopers. Hunter said that when she decided to join the force five years ago, she was the only black woman in the department. Now, there are two.

Spokane City Administrator Jack Lynch has recommended to the mayor and the City Council that the degree requirement for city department heads be waived for Police Chief Roger Bragdon. A career Spokane cop who was appointed chief in 2000 on the condition that he obtain a four-year degree, Bragdon still has not graduated. Mayor John Powers said that the chief is doing an outstanding job and is far too busy to be attending classes.

Robo cop

Working with a robot on hazardous-duty assignments as a New York City police officer did not turn **Joseph A. Knedlhans** off to the mechanical marvels. In fact, that and a gift from a former girlfriend prompted a two-decade long fascination with the robots and robot-themed toys.

Knedlhans, who is now retired from the force, is the proprietor of a museum in Adamstown, Pa., that showcases his collection of more than 3,000 robots and toys, with digital recorders to play the jingles and catchphrases of the items on display.

"You start with one, and then it's two, and then they're just sort of squirreled away — in the kitchen, in the basement, in the attic," he told *The Associated Press*.

The robot that Knedlhans worked with while with the NYPD was called *Robotee*, a \$95,000 unit that had a shotgun, a video camera and a microphone. His toys are quite a bit safer and less sophisticated, however.

Among the clocks, banks, robotic spiders, birds, dogs and cats that make Knedlhans's collection is *Robert the Robot*, a toy from the 1950s that he says is one of his favorites. "He has a crank in the back that when you wind it up he talks. He was the first talking toy made in America."

With so few girl robots made, those that exist are rare. Another favorite of Knedlhans is *Maria*, which debuted in the silent film classic "*Metropolis*" in 1927. It was said to have inspired **George Lucas** in creating *Princess Leia's* costume in *Star Wars*.

Perhaps the most expensive piece in the collection is *Topo*, which sells for \$1,000 at auction. Created by the designer of *Atari*, *Topo* is an Androhot that is programmed using an Apple computer.

"Topo was made by **Nolan Bushnell** ...," said Knedlhans. "I never noticed, but the computer and the robot color-coordinate."

Across the pond

Boston Police Commissioner **Paul F. Evans** will be taking his coalition-building approach to crimefighting across the Atlantic in November when he begins work as director of Britain's Police Standards Unit.

The position is a substantial one, according to Boston Mayor **Thomas Menino**. The unit was created in 2001 by the British government to help assess the effectiveness of the nation's police forces, and ways in which they can be improved.

Evans, who will be retiring, has served as commissioner since 1994. A 33-year veteran of the B.P.D., he is credited with reducing crime in Boston by one-third, chiefly by implementing a cooperative strategy that brings law enforcement together with clergy, community groups and businesses. [See *Law Enforcement News*, Dec. 31, 1997.]

From 1994 to 2003, the city's homicide rate fell by 68 percent, with rape decreasing by half during that period.



Joseph Knedlhans and one of the prizes in his collection, a robot pinball machine. (See story at left.)

to its lowest level in 34 years. Property crime also fell by one-third. In 2002, violent crime dropped to a 31-year low.

"That's why I'm being asked to go to England," said Evans. "It's because of the collective accomplishments.... It certainly wasn't me acting alone by any stretch of the imagination."

Filling Evans's shoes will not be easy, city officials and outside observers agreed. Said **James Fox**, a professor of criminal justice at Northeastern University: "The loss of **Paul Evans** to the city of Boston is staggering. He's done a terrific job and he would be very, very difficult to replace."

A search for a successor would begin immediately, said **Menino**. The city will look both inside and outside the department for a replacement, he said.

Evans will be leaving as the city prepares for the task of hosting the 2004 Democratic National Convention, and while patrol officers are still negotiating a contract. While no time is a good time to leave, he said, he is confident that the agency was in good shape.

As director of the British standards office, Evans will earn an annual salary of as much as \$210,000, with a performance bonus of up to 15 percent a year, according to the British Home Office.

Kevin Morris, president of the Police Superintendents' Association, said it was disappointing that the post had not gone to a Briton.

"There are some excellent people in this country who I would have thought could have done a very good job, but we have to trust the Home Office on their decision," he told *The Associated Press*.

Home Secretary **David Blunkett**, a senior member of Prime Minister **Tony Blair's** administration, observed that Evans's track record in reducing crime "ideally placed" him to lead the "unit's work in driving up performance standards in the police service."

Drawing card

When a bad vehicle accident occurs in Union City, Calif., one of the first calls police make is to a retired aerospace engineer whose extraordinarily sophisticated diagrams and maps of the scene can make the difference in establishing the cause of a crash.

Dan Sarka, 62, was a supervisor in the systems analyst division of the United States Naval Air Station in Alameda before retiring in 1995 when the base was decommissioned.

In 2002, he responded to an ad he saw in the city's quarterly newsletter asking for volunteers, and he was quickly recruited by the Union City Police Department. Since then, he has brought a level of measurement and diagram never before seen there, said Lt. **Ken Hokanson**, who oversees its volunteer program.

On June 5, Sarka was called out by police to diagram evidence from an accident involving a bus that careened out of control, hitting six other vehicles. It took more than eight hours to catalog the evidence, which was scattered along a 550-foot stretch on both sides of Alvarado Boulevard.

"There was a broken glass here, a piece of plastic there, a pool of oil here," Sarka told *The Fremont Argus*. "It was especially difficult because of the number of vehicles involved."

After detailing every piece of evidence from a crash, Sarka uses a special computer originally used for airline manufacturing to precisely plot light poles, curbs, crosswalks, sidewalks and "anything I feel may have obstructed the driver's vision," he said. A template is then created.

The diagram can then be used by officers to determine rate of speed, direction and other factors.

According to Hokanson, Sarka's diagrams are so precise that when an officer showed up at the traffic accident reconstruction school held by the state Highway Patrol, the instructor was "flabbergasted." Everyone, he said, gathered around to look at Sarka's diagram.

Sarka's work is so impressive, in fact, that the neighboring Newark Police Department hired him to work 20 hours a week diagramming intersections around that city, although it has not yet called him out to an accident scene.

Around Union City, Sarka has already mapped more than 50 of the jurisdiction's major intersections. Sarka, said Hokanson, could easily be certified as an expert witness and testify at trial.

"I try to be as accurate as I know how," said the unassuming engineer. "It makes me feel like I'm contributing to the police department [and] the community."

Time to go

While he still loves his job as chief of the Leonia, N.J., Police Department, **August "Chip" Greiner** will be leaving it to pursue law enforcement opportunities elsewhere, he said in August.

"I'm a young guy, and I love a challenge," said the 47-year-old Greiner. "I think now is the golden time to go."

Greiner said he has received four job offers, three of those from out of state. He would not be more specific until he accepted one, he told *The Bergen Record*.

"He's performed admirably and honorably for our community and left his shoes to fill," said Borough Councilman **Karl Marquardt**, chairman of the police committee.

The jurisdiction will first consider current employees of the 27-member department before looking outside to replace Greiner, said Mayor **Paul Kaufman**. Neither official would name any candidates being considered.

Greiner will officially retire on Jan. 1. His pension will be based on the \$123,400 salary he received this year. Part of that is due to a \$500 bonus he gets for each year he served — part of the agency's standard retirement package. He will also receive four months paid leave, and is eligible to collection compensation for any unused vacation days.

A 23-year veteran of the agency, Greiner has served as chief for nearly four years. He counts among his accomplishments the establishment of a response team in which volunteers act as liaisons between domestic violence victims and police, and the installation of video monitors in squad cars, prior to their requirement statewide.

But his most exciting moment on the force, he said, came as a detective, when he arrested **David Clark**, a serial burglar who robbed some 60 Bergen County homes during the mid-1980s.

Greiner was on a stakeout when he spotted a man wearing a baggy sweatshirt and too-big sneakers. Recalling that Clark had crashed through the window of one home when discovered by the owner and bolted to a friend's house to change his clothes, Greiner chased him after recognizing his face. Wounds on Clark's hand linked him to the burglary attempt.

CPD has its Phil

After having served as Chicago's acting police superintendent for the past three months, **Philip J. Cline** won permanent appointment to the post in October.

The 53-year-old Cline replaces **Terry Hillard** who retired in August after five and a half years at the helm. Cline served under Hillard as first deputy superintendent. He was chosen by Mayor **Richard M. Daley** over two other finalists: **Winnika Police Chief Joseph DeLopez**, and New York City Deputy Commissioner **Garry McCarthy**.

Cline's promotion still needs to be approved by the City Council, but Daley called him the best choice to continue Hillard's work. While crime is

going down, he said, the city's murder rate is still among the highest in the nation. That will be one of Cline's biggest challenges, said Daley.

A 33-year veteran of the agency, Cline was promoted to detective in 1972, just two years after joining the force. He worked in narcotics and in the organized crime division, and was named chief of detectives in 2001. In April of this year, Hillard tapped him to be the department's second-in-command.

But Cline's promotion to superintendent was not without controversy. During the search, critics, including the Rev. **Jesse Jackson**, said the city deserved a finalist who was black, as is Hillard. Both Cline and McCarthy are white, DeLopez is Hispanic.

Daley, however, said he would not dump the finalists just to consider an African American candidate.

"Crime is not black or white or Hispanic or Asian," he told *The Associated Press*. "Crime is crime."

Cline agreed. "When people feel safe in their neighborhoods," he said, "they don't care what color the superintendent is."

Potter's field

A decade after leaving public service, former Portland, Ore., police chief **Tom Potter** announced in September that he would be entering the city's mayoral race.

"I've been giving this a lot of thought since February," said the 62-year-old Potter. "I'm just getting started on my campaign."

An early and vocal proponent of community policing, Potter led the agency from 1990 to 1993 after having served as the first head of its community policing division. Weighing in on the recent controversy involving the fatal shooting of a black motorist and the forced resignation of Chief **Mark Kroeker** [see Page 5], Potter said that new Chief **Derrick Foxworth** "has a large gulf to pull the community to the organization." Foxworth, who served as a public information officer under Potter, needs to get community policing back on track, the former chief told *The Oregonian*.

As chief, Potter was a strong advocate of gay and lesbian rights and of promoting diversity within the agency. His daughter, **Kate**, became the first Portland officer to publicly acknowledge her homosexuality. Potter's support for his daughter, which included his wanting to march in uniform in a gay pride parade, made him a target for local conservative groups that accused him of bending to the "homosexual agenda."

His advocacy also led to his withdrawal from consideration for the top post at the Justice Department's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services under the Clinton administration. Potter's views apparently caused concern among Justice Department officials.

But this résumé, some observers say, could help him run to the left of city Commissioner **Jim Francesconi**, who has been fund-raising aggressively and has emerged as the leading candidate for Mayor **Vera Katz's** job in 2004. Katz said she will not run again next year.

Major-city pink slips

Portland's Kroeker yields to mayor's "quit or be fired" ultimatum

When the dust settles, supporters of Portland, Ore., Police Chief Mark Kroeker believe that his contributions to the agency during his three and a half years in command will be obvious. For now, however, it is Kroeker's detractors who are having their say — and their way — with the man who abruptly became their ex-chief last month.

On Aug. 29, a tearful Kroeker issued a statement at the city's Justice Center, saying that he had been given the option through an intermediary for Mayor Vera Katz to either resign, or face being fired.

"I believe it would have been better had we had an opportunity to discuss the conditions, and to strategically work together towards a solution of those problems that continue for the bureau," said Kroeker.

While critics have celebrated Kroeker's ouster, even they found fault with Katz's chosen method for removing him. The process was not as "elegant" as she had wished for, the mayor acknowledged, "but the bottom line is I needed to make a change in the bureau. I needed to make a management decision to do what's best for the community and for the police bureau."

The move closely followed the release of a blistering report by the Los Angeles-based Police Assessment Resource Center, which faulted officers' decisions for nearly two dozen shootings in recent years. All of the incidents occurred prior to Kroeker's appointment.

At various points during his tenure, Kroeker seems to have crossed swords with the rank-and-file, the city's gay-rights organizations, and its black and Hispanic communities.

The most recent example involved the fatal shooting on May 5 of a 21-year-old black woman, Kendra James, who drove away from a traffic stop. Kroeker suspended Officer Scott McCollister for five and a half months, angering both the rank and file, who felt McCollister was being punished unfairly, and black leaders, who felt he should have been fired.



Mark Kroeker
"Inelegant" ouster

The city's Hispanic leaders were outraged when Kroeker awarded a Police Medal to two officers who killed a Mexican immigrant during a confrontation at a mental hospital in 2001. The officers had been cleared of wrongdoing by a grand jury.

And gay activists demanded — and received — an apology from Kroeker for inflammatory remarks he made 10 years ago.

"Though I personally hold the chief in high regard and am not empowered as a spokesperson for the gay community, I suspect that most of [our readership] would agree that this resignation is in the best interest of all," said Marty Davis, publisher of *Just Out*, a statewide magazine for the gay community.

Kroeker's tenure, Davis told *The Oregonian*, "has been characterized by virtually constant strife and discord with multiple minority segments of the greater Portland community."

One community that will miss Kroeker, however, is the city's Muslim minority. In a controversial move in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, he refused to allow his department to cooperate with federal agents in conducting antiterrorism interviews with immigrants. Last year, Kroeker es-

tablished the Arab and Muslim Police Advisory Council.

The 59-year-old chief came to the bureau from the Los Angeles Police Department, where he had served for 32 years and retired as a deputy chief. He assumed command in Portland on Dec. 17, 1999, succeeding Charles R. Moose, who went on to become chief in Montgomery County, Md., and leader of the Beltway sniper investigation team.

"[Kroeker] brought a certain esprit de corps to the bureau," Detective Pete Simpson, editor of the Portland Police Association's monthly newspaper, told *The Oregonian*. "He made you feel good about being a police officer. He started a police foundation and gave out awards to officers that were long overdue. Putting the officers first was one of the things he did very well."

Kroeker established the long sought 10-hour, four-day-a-week shift schedule. He also appointed senior neighborhood officers who could focus on community problems rather than respond to emergency calls.

"I think he had a lot of good plans and a lot of good vision that he was never able to put into implementation," said Sgt. George Burke of the detective division.

Replacing Kroeker, at least for now, is Derrick Foxworth, 44, who has been named acting chief. Foxworth had been an assistant chief, as well as commander of the bureau's tactical operations unit, and oversaw its property evidence and identification divisions.

Foxworth, who is black, is generally expected to win the permanent appointment as chief. While race is not an issue, black leaders say, it is believed that having risen through the ranks and grown up in Portland will help Foxworth mend fences and build the type of community support that seemed to elude his predecessor.

"He's the right man for the job," said the Rev. Roy Tate, president of the Albina Ministerial Alliance. "He came up through the ranks. He's fair. He's a man of his word."

Some in Dallas see chief's ouster as a slap in the face

Citing a litany of problems that included an embarrassing fake-drug scandal and alarming crime statistics, Dallas officials in August abruptly fired Terrell Bolton, the city's first black police chief.

"After four years of Chief Bolton's leadership I just thought it was time to go in a new direction," said City Manager Ted Benavides. "I think he's a really good guy. Sometimes events overtake you."

Bolton, 45, was commanding three of the department's six patrol divisions when city officials chose him in 1999 to replace retiring Chief Ben Click. They bypassed a national search in favor of appointing Bolton, who became the first chief in nearly two decades to come from within the ranks.

But in recent years, the department has been plagued by a number of problems that have left Bolton an embattled leader. Last April, a decorated undercover narcotics officer, Senior Cpl Mark Delapaz, was fired after being indicted on charges of civil rights violations and making false statements in connection with a scheme that led to the incarceration of dozens of innocent people, mainly Mexican immigrants.

The scandal involved the grinding up of gypsum to look like methamphetamine and cocaine. It was allegedly planted on victims of the investigations run by Delapaz and Officer Eddie Herrera. Eventually, felony charges against 80 individuals were dropped by the Dallas County District Attorney, and those who spent time in prison have either sued or plan to sue the city.

Dallas has also had to pay \$5.65 million to settle lawsuits brought by the commanders whom Bolton either demoted or reassigned after his appointment as chief. The changes were not made based on their performances, he said, but rather on his need for diversity at the top levels of the agency.

Then in July, a 72-percent spike in the city's homicide rate put Dallas on a pace to have the highest crime rate among the nation's nine largest cities for the sixth year in a row. Overall, crime was up 9.1 percent during the first six months of this year compared to the same period in 2002. Last year, the city's per capita crime rate was twice that of Los Angeles and San Diego, and three times that of New York City.

Bolton, who was fired on Aug. 27, the day after his 23-year anniversary with the force, has accused Benavides of playing the part of cat's paw to Mayor Laura Miller. Under the city's charter, only the city manager can fire or hire a police chief. Bolton and his attorney, Robert Hinton, have also accused officials of racism. Their contention has been supported by four of the city's black City Council members.

"This is a slap in the face like it's never been slapped before," Councilman James Fantroy told *The Associated Press*. "We will not sit by and allow this. This is not the '50s." Fantroy has predicted repercussions from the city's minority community.

Benavides said he had lost confidence in Bolton's leadership. He had given him the chance to resign after the chief resisted Miller's directive to hold weekly meetings based on the city's crime rate. Bolton claims that he went to those sessions to save his \$140,800-a-year job, but believed strongly that



Terrell Bolton
Overtaken by events?

Miller's involvement in day-to-day police operations was a charter violation.

Hinton said that Benavides had the right to demote Bolton, but not fire him. The result, he said, has been damage to Bolton's reputation and has made him "unemployable." Hinton gave the city attorney 10 days to contact him to "negotiate some sort of solution."

Ironically, the city's claim that it has the right to remove high-ranking commanders is bolstered by recent rulings on the lawsuits brought by the very commanders that Bolton demoted.

"The court case clearly says that we have the right to fire high-ranking police officers who we no longer feel should be in the job. Period," said Miller.

St. Pete tries to keep its cops home with housing incentive

Trying to stanch a "hemorrhage" of sworn police personnel, officials in St. Petersburg are tempting officers with an incentive — up to \$14,000 for the purchase of a new house, or the remodeling of an old one — provided they stay within the jurisdiction and remain on the force for seven years.

The program, called Police in Neighborhoods (PIN), is a modification of an older program that had been aimed at creating high-visibility of law enforcement in low-income communities. It was not a success, acknowledged George Kajpas, the police department's director of public information.

"Very few officers signed up for it," he told *Law Enforcement News*.

Instead, PIN now offers police the chance to live anywhere within city limits. The median price of a house in St. Petersburg is \$81,000, but in many neighborhoods it is much higher, said Thomas deYmpart, the city's manager of housing and community develop-

ment. St. Petersburg officers start at \$34,000 a year, and their salary peaks at \$52,000.

"We do not feel that the police officers are paid enough to live in certain parts of St. Petersburg," he told *The St. Petersburg Times*.

Chief Chuck Harmon became concerned in 2001 that housing prices might be one reason why the department was losing personnel. The number of officers who left for other agencies that year tripled to 21, from 7 the year before.

Detective Joe Bross became the first officer to borrow \$14,000 under the program. If he remains eligible, he will not have to pay it back. The money is more of a grant, said Kajpas, than a loan. With 16 years already spent with the department, Bross said he definitely plans to stay. The house he purchased cost \$305,000 and will need an estimated \$50,000 to \$60,000 in repairs.

"It wasn't the reason we were able

to get the home, but it's \$14,000," Bross told *The Times*. "That made it \$14,000 easier."

At least 20 other officers have applied for the program, said Kajpas.

The program, which works in conjunction with the federal mortgage association to help officers buy homes at a competitive interest rate, is one of three measures the city took to attract and retain personnel, he said.

"We had a major hemorrhage here," Kajpas told *LEN*. "They were going to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department, they were going to the Tampa Police Department."

One of those measures is a five-year salary bump for officers who transfer laterally from other agencies. The PIN program was amended after raising salaries to levels on par with similar-sized agencies, including Tampa and Jacksonville, failed to stop the flow. "We were still losing officers, so we decided to try this," he said.

Law Enforcement News

Founded 1975
A publication of John Jay College
of Criminal Justice,
City University of New York
Gerald W. Lynch, President

Marie Simonetti Rosen
Publisher

Peter C. Dodenhoff
Editor/Associate Publisher

Jennifer Nislow
Associate Editor

Wendell Velez
Subscriptions

Nancy Egan
Contributing Writer

Correspondents: Walt Francis, Tom Gutchoff, T.L. Tyler, Ron Van Raalte

Law Enforcement News is © 2003 and published twice monthly (once monthly during July and August) by LEN Inc. and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 555 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019. Telephone (212) 237-8442 Fax (212) 237-8486. E-mail: len@jjay.cuny.edu. Subscription rates: \$28 per year (22 issues). Advertising rates available upon request.

Requests for permission to reprint any portion of *Law Enforcement News* in any form should be addressed to Marie Simonetti Rosen, Publisher. ISSN 0364-1724. *Law Enforcement News* is available in microform from University Microfilms Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Dept. P.R., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

First half of 2003 brings spike in violence

As one Florida officer observed, crime is like the temperature — it has its ups and downs. But in recent months, there seems to have been a spike in violent crime, especially murder, in a number of jurisdictions nationwide.

Metropolitan Police Chief Charles Ramsey declared a crime emergency for Washington, D.C., in August following the shootings of five women and three men outside a nightclub, and the death of Shirley Pugh, a 60-year-old city employee whose car was struck by a stolen vehicle driven by a 13-year-old.

Under Ramsey's emergency order, commanders were allowed to change officers' hours and duties without the normal 14-day notice required by the city's collective bargaining agreement.

From January through August, the District recorded 166 murders — an increase of 5.1 percent compared to the same period in 2002. Arrests from mid-July through mid-August averaged 851 per week, an increase of 120 per week over the average during March. So far, more than 32,000 arrests have been made in 2003, and by the end of the year, a projected 44,000 will have been made.

Further south, in Gwinnett County, Ga., the city's one-year record of 27 homicides, set in 1999, was shattered in August when police recorded 28 — six more than the total for all of 2002.

Mark Reed, a criminologist at Georgia State University and a Gwinnett County resident, estimated that 40 to 45 murders seemed "reasonable," given the pace of homicides this year. The economy and a recent surge of immigrants into the jurisdiction cannot be overlooked as factors, he told *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

Between 1990 and 2000, according to census figures, the county grew by roughly 235,000 people. The Asian

community grew from 1,000 to 42,768, and the Hispanic community from fewer than 9,000 residents to 64,000.

Nor can family violence be overlooked as a factor in the crime surge.

A new push against domestic abuse was launched in Atlanta at the beginning of the year after four incidents resulted in the deaths of 10 people, including three attackers. The city has recorded a 23-percent increase in homicides so far this year. As of Aug. 23, it had tallied 96 murders.

Poor children who are neglected or abused, and children who fall behind in school are the most likely to become tomorrow's victims, wrote DeKalb County District Attorney J. Tom Morgan in a report issued in June.

"Crime prevention begins with the infant and must continue all the way through adolescence," it said.

On the West Coast, California Highway Patrol officers and Alameda County sheriff's deputies are assisting Oakland police in quelling a surge in homicides. Fourteen people were murdered between Aug. 22 and Sept. 4, pushing the total so far this year to 87 — 10 more slayings than were recorded through the first eight months in 2002.

Under the aid plan, 30 additional officers will be added to the streets, serving warrants and sweeping targeted neighborhoods known for drugs and violence.

While Sheriff Charles Plummer has expressed doubt that the extra patrols would help reduce murders in a city where many residents refuse to help police solve crimes, he said he would be willing to do whatever he could — even at the risk of stretching his own tight budget.

"It will probably make people feel better anyway to know there are more police out there, but the problems with

Oakland, the sickest city in California, won't get fixed with more patrols," he told *The Alameda Times-Star*. "[Chief Richard] Word does a hell of a good job with what he has to work with, which is nothing."

Police officials in Columbus, Ohio, say it has been an "unusual year with many unusual cases." The city is on pace to reach 100 homicides this year, the first time that will have happened since 1994.

Among the slayings have been three arsons that resulted in eight deaths. The victims were five college students, a mother and daughter, and an elderly man in a wheelchair. There was also an infant who was shot, another child who was beaten to death and a toddler who drowned in a bathtub while the child's mother was passed out drunk.

In at least 29 murders this year, the assailant appeared to have been a stranger to the victim; in 29 others, it was a family member, friend or acquaintance.

"Just looking at what I have here, there is no particular pattern," said Lt. Mary Kerins, who is in charge of homicide detectives.

In Clearwater and Largo on Florida's Gulf Coast, crime shot up across the board during the first six months of this year.

Violent crime in Clearwater rose by 19.7 percent, led by forcible sex offenses, which were up by 44.9 percent, and aggravated assaults, up by 26.1 percent. Largo's statistics were similar to Clearwater's, with violent crime up by 37.3 percent, mainly in the form of aggravated assaults, which roughly doubled from 59 in 2002 to 98 as of August.

"It's like the temperature, it goes up and it goes down," said Clearwater Sgt. Doug Griffith about the upswing.

In Howard County, Md., the number of violent offenses rose by 10 percent during the first half of 2003, but more of those crimes were solved than in the previous year.

Police cleared 177 violent crimes, compared with 119 during the same period in 2002. Although rape cases increased from 14 to 22, investigators closed 18 of those cases, according to official figures released in August.

One significant area of increase, however, has been assaults on police.

From January through June of 2003, Howard County officers were assaulted 67 times, compared with 50 during the same period last year — a 34-percent jump.

They were not the only officers to come under increasing attack. National Park Service rangers were assaulted at 10 times the rate of DEA agents, and 12 times the rate of FBI agents, according to a study released in September by the Justice Department.

In Jean Lafitte National Historic Park in southern Louisiana, the number of full-time law enforcement rangers dropped from five to two from January through August. Over the past five years, rangers patrolling the 20,000-acre park have responded to four homicides and several incidents of drug activity, car theft, arsons, DWIs and the dumping of hazardous waste, according to a report by *The Associated Press*.

"The majority of our parks are understaffed," Judy Forte, chief ranger for the southeast region of the National Park Service in Atlanta, told *The AP*. "A lot of the time the ranger is alone which puts him at a greater risk of danger not having proper backup."

High-tech tracking curbed in case of Washington child-killer

In a decision said to be the first of its kind in the nation, the Washington Supreme Court in September ruled unanimously that law enforcement must obtain a warrant if it wants to tail a suspect using a Global Positioning System tracking device.

The ruling stemmed from a case involving a Spokane man found guilty of murdering his 9-year-old daughter in 1999. It does not, however, overturn his conviction.

William B. Jackson reported his daughter, Valiree, missing the day she died. According to court records, he called 911, went around the neighborhood calling her name and asking if anyone had seen her. But investigators had found blood on the child's pillow, then a diary which said her father would not leave her alone in her room. They also learned of another motive: Jackson had wanted to marry a woman who did not get along with his daughter.

After impounding his 1995 Ford pickup truck and his 1985 Honda Accord, Spokane County deputies attached GPS devices to the vehicles before returning them. Some three weeks after the murder, the device's recordings showed Jackson returning to the site where he had buried Valiree in a shallow grave. Investigators later recovered two plastic bags containing the girl's blood and hair.

At issue was the warrant. Although deputies obtained one prior to installing the GPS tracker, the defense argued that it was based on the slim premise that Jackson might return to the scene. Prosecutors contended that the warrant was proper, and that they did not even need one since the tracker was akin to following the suspect in an unmarked car.

The court, however, sided with the defense. Using a tracking device is "a particularly intrusive method of surveillance," wrote Justice Barbara Madsen, "making it possible to acquire an enormous amount of personal information



GPS mapping technology is widely available, but Washington's highest court rules out its use without a warrant to track suspects.

about the citizen under circumstances where the individual is unaware that every single vehicle trip taken and the duration of every single stop may be recorded by the government."

It is the equivalent of placing "an invisible police officer in a person's back seat," Doug Honig, a spokesman for the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington, *The New York Times*. "Our state Constitution has very strong protections for privacy. Some other states also have very strong protections for privacy. This will be a strong precedent for them to look at and for any law enforcement agency around the country."

But experts contend that the ruling will most likely extend no further than Washington. D.P. Van Blaricom, a retired Bellevue, Wash., police chief who is now a police litigation expert, noted that some vehicles now have GPS trackers on them as a means of preventing theft. It also helps police avoid high-speed chases.

"Our state constitution is very limiting," he said in an interview with *Law Enforcement News*. "That's not unusual throughout the United States where a state constitution is more limiting than the federal constitution. Many states will make decisions, primarily, I think, to show their own independence, but to enforce their own constitutional requirements on privacy and other issues."

Kevin Korsmo, the deputy prosecutor, said that he was satisfied that the court did not reverse Jackson's conviction, but felt the ruling expanded the rights of criminal suspects. There was no right of privacy, he told *The Times*, for what a person did in public.

The court rejected the comparison between tailing a suspect and installing a tracking device, however. It is unlikely, Madsen wrote, that the sheriff's department could have maintained uninterrupted, 24-hour surveillance throughout the two-and-a-half-week period Jackson was tracked.

Deputies sparkle in S.C. pageant fundraiser

Just like real women everywhere, the male deputies participating in the recent Beaufort County, S.C., "Womanless Beauty Pageant Fundraiser," searched high and low for that special outfit that would show off their legs and wouldn't make their backsides look too big.

The charity event held on Oct. 4 raised \$1,550 for an officer appreciation dinner scheduled for December, according to Lance Cpl. Midge Scott, who coordinated the pageant. While participants had fundraising in mind, she told the newspaper *Lowland Country Now*, some seemed to be in the event for the competition.

"These guys that have volunteered to be in it, they're really anxious to see what kind of costumes they can come up with," said Scott. "They're very competitive by nature, no matter what the situation.... I've heard a few of them say they know they have this pageant wrapped up."

Eleven deputies competed. One of them, Master Sgt. Tim Newman, said his pre-pageant preparation included checking out a few items from Frederick's of Hollywood and Victoria's Secret. He realized he would have to pay more for a dress that fits his 5-foot-10-inch, 210-pound frame.

"They don't have sequins at the Big & Tall Shop," said Newman, a training

officer and former Marine, whose wife is helping him accessorize with a matching wig. "I'm looking for something that won't make my butt look big and will make my legs look good," he added. "I have great legs."

Among the participants were detectives, patrol officers, K-9 handlers and a number of SWAT team members — "your all-around masculine, macho guys," said Scott.

The event opened with a "parade of beauties" across the stage, after which contestants were called out individually to model their outfits and answer a question posed by the emcee, who also happened to be Sheriff P.J. Tanner's wife, Angie. There was no talent competition and no swimsuit segment.

"I don't want to be shot," said Scott. "I have the sheriff protecting me so far."

The winner, crowned Ms. BCSO, was chosen by a panel of three judges, and audience members were able to cast votes, for a dollar apiece, for their favorites. In the end, the winner's tiara, sash and bouquet went to Newman, who competed under the stage name "Ophelia Rumph." Newman also won the People's Choice award.

The first runner-up was Deputy Er n Morris, aka "Selma Body," and the second runner-up was Sgt. Andrew Faucett, aka "Madame Michelle." They each received flowers and a trophy.

Fed probers use fake IDs to poke holes in MV licensing agencies

Despite efforts to tighten procedures for obtaining a driver's license, federal investigators using fake identification were able to fool motor vehicle departments in seven states, according to a report to Congress in September.

Agents for the General Accounting Office used fraudulent utility bills, Social Security cards and forged driver's licenses from other states to obtain driver's licenses or state identity cards from the District of Columbia, New York, Maryland, Arizona, California, South Carolina, Michigan and even Virginia, where five of the Sept. 11 hijackers illegitimately obtained licenses. One investigator was successful there two out of three times, said the report.

And in California and New York, which have among the most stringent requirements, agents were able to get temporary licenses.

"Unless action is taken, individuals who want to cause harm can easily exploit these vulnerabilities," said Robert Cramer, who directs special investigations for the GAO.

An earlier investigation by the agency in May found that investigators could obtain valid Social Security numbers for fictitious infants by using counterfeit baptismal or birth certificates. In July, officials testified that one state motor vehicle department had issued licenses and identity cards to 41 people who used the names of people listed as deceased in the Social Security Administration's master death file.

"Two years after the attacks of Sept. 11, document and identity fraud for terrorists is still too easy to accomplish," said Senator Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. "There are too many loopholes that remain for us to feel safe."

Lawmakers also heard testimony from Youssef Hmimssa, a Moroccan

citizen who pleaded guilty to document and credit card fraud. Hmimssa was charged with buying and selling false identifications prior to Sept. 11. He is awaiting sentencing at a detention site in Detroit.

According to the interview summary reported by The New York Times, Hmimssa learned how to commit credit card fraud and make fake identity documents through the Internet. While working as a cab driver, he would swipe cards through a type of magnetic reader called a "skimmer," then encode the information onto his own credit card to make purchases.

Hmimssa would make fraudulent documents by scanning originals, including passports and immigration forms, into his computer and making templates. He entered the United States with a fake French passport and adopted the identity of an American citizen by buying the birth certificate and Social Security number of a Puerto Rican named Edgardo Colon for \$700. Hmimssa enrolled in a school teaching computer engineering and got a taxicab license using a combination of the two identities. He also traveled to Morocco on an American passport.

Almost every state has toughened its policies for issuing driver's licenses. For example, New Jersey, Alaska and Oklahoma will replace pasted-on Polaroid images with plastic credit-card type licenses carrying bar codes. In Oklahoma, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Mississippi, the District of Columbia and West Virginia, photos will be digitized so that a database of drivers' faces can be compiled.

In California, applicants must submit fingerprints. The same requirement applies in Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Oklahoma and Texas. It is optional in Arkansas, Mississippi and West Vir-

ginia. Some of those same states also used facial recognition software, including Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Mississippi, Oklahoma, the District of Columbia and West Virginia.

Recent legislation in at least two states, Louisiana and California, has caused concern, however.

Asa Hutchinson, undersecretary for border and transportation security at the Department of Homeland Security, called a new law in California that allows illegal immigrants to obtain licenses "an extra burden" for agents responsible for preventing people from entering the country illegally. [See LEN, Oct. 15/31, 2003.]

And in Louisiana, state Senator Joe McPherson, a Democrat from Woodworth, defended legislation he sponsored that would allow undocumented agriculture workers to obtain a one-year driver's license. The law, which took effect on Aug. 15, has been lambasted by a group advocating stricter controls over immigration as a way of easing potential terrorists' ability to obtain licenses.

Some states, such as Minnesota, began issuing licenses last year that link their expiration dates to those of the holder's visa. Once the visa expires, so does the license. So far, there have been few if any complaints, officials and civil libertarians agree.

"I haven't heard of anybody being harassed because of it," Theresa Nelson of the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union told The Associated Press.

The four-year licenses have the words "status check" printed across them in red. Of the more than 1,800 people whose status-check licenses have approached their cancellation date, 653 have proved they have extended or applied to extend their visas, thus receiving license extensions as well.

State & local Alaska cops differ in approach to pot busts

Small amounts of marijuana may be legal under state law in Alaska but not under federal law, noted state Attorney General Gregg Renkes in a recent memorandum to law enforcement stating that pot should be seized and held as evidence for potential prosecution by the U.S. Attorney's office.

A state appellate court ruling in August left law enforcement confused over whether to proceed with pot busts involving four ounces or less. Municipal agencies said they would continue to enforce a ban on the substance, while state police said they would not. Renkes's memo, meant to draw municipal and state police together, instructed them to make no arrests, but to confiscate any pot they find.

"It's kind of the ongoing saga between the right to privacy versus the marijuana laws in the state," Wrangell Police Chief Doug McCloskey told Law Enforcement News. "My understanding is that troopers are not going to enforce the small quantities within the home, and I guess that's their administrator's decision. As far as I know, most of the police departments are going to continue to enforce it...because it's still illegal."

The "flux," as McCloskey called it, began on Aug. 29, when the state Court of Appeals unanimously reversed the

conviction of David Noy, a North Pole man convicted in 2001 of marijuana possession. A search of his home had turned up five live pot plants, growing equipment and other paraphernalia.

In its decision, the appellate court reaffirmed a landmark 1975 state Supreme Court decision, *Ravin v. State*, which allowed residents to possess up to four ounces in their home for personal use. The *Ravin* decision stated that banning home use and possession of marijuana by adults violated the constitutional right to privacy. The Legislature later decriminalized possession of the drug at home.

But in 1990, Alaska voters approved a referendum that criminalized the possession of any amount of marijuana with a fine of up to \$1,000 and up to 90 days in jail.

While the appellate court reversed Noy's misdemeanor conviction, it upheld the state's drug-dealer law making more than four ounces illegal. Noy can still be retried by state prosecutors for possession of a greater quantity.

The latest ruling has been hailed by marijuana reform groups as a potential "bellwether" for changing laws nationwide. At the same time, some groups have charged that Renkes's instructions violate the appellate ruling by working to get federal prosecutors involved in

small marijuana cases. "The attorney general here is declaring quite openly that he is wanting to conspire to undermine and circumvent the state constitution he presumably took an oath to uphold," said Bruce Merkin, of the Washington, D.C.-based Marijuana Policy Project.

Renkes is seeking a rehearing by the appellate court, arguing that it did not get a chance to hear from the state how harmful marijuana is and the government's legitimate interest in restricting its use.

There are still examples, Renkes told The Anchorage Daily News, where the state could prosecute — for example, if minors were involved, or if there were a probation violation.

But even prior to the decision, law enforcement officials said they did not often go out of their way to bust people in their homes. Even the Anchorage Police Department, which stated it would continue to enforce the prohibition, said its policy is only to pursue those cases where officers are made aware of the drug.

State Public Safety Commissioner Bill Tandeske said he did not expect troopers to refer small pot cases to federal prosecutors.

"They are strapped for resources like everyone else," he told The Daily News.

Short Takes

Case studies

At the new Institute for Cold Case Evaluation at West Virginia University, a nonprofit consulting center, law-enforcement agencies will have at their disposal a diverse array of scientists in fields ranging from anthropology to entomology, according to the institute's creator, Max Houck, a forensic anthropologist who previously worked at the FBI crime laboratory.

Each year, the number of cold cases in the nation grows by about another 6,000, on top of the 200,000 unsolved murder cases that have accumulated since 1960.

"At other agencies, they just take the last retiree, hire him back as a contractor and give him a desk and a phone because that's all they have," Houck told The Associated Press. "Then they put a stack of files in front of him...with no resources."

Houck, who teaches at the university, said the ICCE will provide departments with free or discounted services from at least two dozen scientists. It will launch a Web site as well, with a free electronic newsletter and a secure chat room for investigators. The public can browse the site, searching through cases and making donations that will help fund the center.

Candid cameras

Due to overwhelming demand for the high-tech surveillance cameras used by the New Orleans Police Department to record criminal activity in neighborhood "hot spots," city officials have created the adopt-a-camera program, which allows anyone to ask for a camera for their community.

In August, Mayor Ray Nagin said 1,000 digital, high-resolution cameras would be placed around the city. The devices are accurate enough that a license plate three blocks away can be read. They can also be programmed to document activity at 95 spots in a multiple-block area.

While cameras will automatically be installed in high-crime areas, those who can pay \$3,000 to \$4,000 can make a request through the city's Web site: www.isecrime.com. Those who cannot afford the fee can write the department in care of Operations Bureau Chief Warren Riley, 715 S. Broad Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119.

Making a stink

Along with dressing professionally, employees in Murfreesboro, Tenn., now have to maintain good personal hygiene, as well.

The rule was enacted after years of complaints about one particular worker whose smell was so bad that it nauseated fellow employees, said city attorney Susan Emery McGannon. "It's sad that this had to get legalistic," she told The (Nashville) Tennessean. "Things like this gives lawyers a bad rap when we have to make a rule for everything."

The new provision does not include odors due to medical conditions; those cases would be handled by department heads under the Americans with Disabilities Act. "All employees shall maintain good hygiene and appropriate grooming while working," the rule reads. "No employee shall have an odor generally offensive to others when reporting to work. An offensive body odor may result from a lack of good hygiene, from an excessive application of a fragrant aftershave or cologne, or from other causes."

Employees who violate the rule face up to one-day suspensions.

Pay up

Of the \$1 million collected in restitution and fees between 2000 and 2003 from bad-check writers under an existing statute, roughly \$608,000 has been returned to victims by the Yavapai County, Ariz., District Attorney's office.

The law, enacted during the mid-1980s, gives the office the right to collect fees ranging from \$50 up to as much as 15 percent of the check's face value on checks greater than \$1,000. The fees are used to fund the initiative.

"It is a huge impact for the bad check writer to get a letter from the county attorney," County Attorney Sheila Polk told The Associated Press. "The biggest impact is that we effectively collect on bad checks when the holders and the banks are unable to and we do it at no cost to taxpayers."

Of the 3,983 bad checks that were submitted to the program by victims in 2000, \$329,000 of the \$339,000 face value of the checks was recovered. Those who failed to pay were charged with misdemeanors.

Get the lead out

The properties found in lead make it the best material for ammunition. Unfortunately, the metal is also toxic, which has led Alliant Techsystems, the world's largest bullet manufacturer, to explore ways to create "green" ammunition for the military. In 1997, 50 Army ranges in the Massachusetts Military Reservation were shut down by the Environmental Protection Agency because of lead contamination in dirt berms that ran close to the area's sole aqueduct. When the ranges reopened in 2000, soldiers were firing with Alliant's tungsten bullets.

The Army then awarded the Minnesota-based firm a 10-year contract to run its Army Ammunition Plant in Lake City, Mo. During the past three years, it has made 85 million non-lead bullets, but none have been used anywhere but shooting ranges. "It's just harder to make good bullets without lead," Mark DeYoung, vice president of the Alliant ATK Ammunitions Group, told The Minneapolis Star-Tribune. "We are trying to replicate the good performance of lead, but what we have is not as good. We get 'acceptable' performance from lead-free products but it's harder to make and you do give up some of the characteristics. If lead were not toxic, we would not be having this conversation. It's the best."

Agencies say "adios" to Latino database

Some three dozen law enforcement agencies are having to make do without the wealth of personal information on Latin American nationals provided by an American data vendor that was recently forced to pull up its stakes in Mexico and 10 other countries following a public outcry over invasion of privacy.

ChoicePoint Inc., based in Alpharetta, Ga., received \$1 million a year from the federal government in return for access to a database holding information on 65 million voting-age Mexican citizens. The data was considered a potent investigative tool by United States law enforcers for identifying potential terrorists and unmasking fraudulent identities. But most importantly, it gave authorities the ability to initiate their own investigations in Mexico without having to alert local agencies.

"We didn't have to rely on the Mexicans to provide us that information," an unnamed federal investigator told The Associated Press. "You run the risk of corruption when you ask the Mexicans for something."

Immigration and drug enforcement authorities used ChoicePoint data to identify the bodies of 14 Mexican citizens who had died trying to cross the

Arizona desert in 2001. It was also used to help track the smugglers who abandoned them there, one of whom posed as a survivor.

But the information apparently came from Mexico's federal voter rolls and was most likely obtained illegally. In May, the firm handed over the electoral data to officials who had been persuaded to come to the Mexican consulate in Atlanta. ChoicePoint had apparently been concerned that its employees would be arrested if they were sent to Mexico.

One month later, it was forced cut off access to that data and wipe its hard drive clean of personal addresses, passport numbers and even unlisted phone numbers of Mexican citizens.

Mexican authorities have launched an official investigation into the data sales to ChoicePoint and have issued an arrest warrant for the fugitive believed to be responsible for selling the information to the Mexican firm that sold it in turn to the data vendor. Similar probes have been launched in Colombia, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. ChoicePoint has pulled out of Argentina, as well.

The loss of data is just one of several recent changes that will affect law enforcement at the nation's borders.

In September, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said that 5,000 officers working in customs and immigration would be cross-trained as federal air marshals. The initiative, which is part of a larger move to cross-train all inspectors, would expand the resources of the agency and make it more flexible.

"In the past, if we wanted to cover a certain array of flights, that potentially could mean a federal air marshal would have to be moved from one flight he was covering to another, leaving the original flight uncovered," said department spokesman Gordon Johndroe.

By moving marshals from the Transportation Security Administration to

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, both part of the Department of Homeland Security, the pool of federal officers available to work in cockpits would be increased.

The exact number of air marshals remains undisclosed.

Other inspectors who currently perform customs, immigration or agriculture functions would be trained to conduct all three. Sending travelers through a single inspector would provide for a better screening, said Ridge.

Cross-training has already begun at Dulles International Airport outside Washington, D.C., Los Angeles Inter-

national, Kennedy International in New York and Houston Intercontinental, according to Johndroe.

"We will have the potential, based on threat information, based on need, to send more people to secondary screening and have more people there to interrogate them properly," he said.

Ridge also said that secure phone lines and video links to the emergency operations centers in all 50 states have been installed, to enhance the prompt sharing of classified information. And governors, he said, have been invited to name five state officials to apply for security clearances so more information can be provided on terrorist threats.

Questions surround two decades of arrests by uncertified Idaho cops

It is possible that convictions based on thousands of arrests made by Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, police officers who were uncertified at the time could be overturned, but Kootenai County Prosecutor Bill Douglas finds that prospect unlikely, given the virtually impossible task of determining who was certified, and when.

Audits conducted by the Coeur D'Alene City Attorney's office and the state's Peace Officer Standards and Training Academy revealed that over the past 25 years as many as 26 officers had performed law-enforcement duties with lapsed certification from time to time. The most recent were six officers graduated from the last two academy classes.

While the revelation led to the resignation of Police Chief Tom Cronin in September, the findings were not as dire as they sound, said Doug Graves, deputy director of the POST academy. Rookie officers have a year from the time they enter the academy to be certified. For all practical purposes, their certification is complete, he told Law Enforcement News, but they just do not have the paperwork that makes it official.

However, officers are considered lapsed even if they are just one day over the deadline. Non-certification for

Coeur D'Alene officers ranged from one week to as much as four years in one case.

"It's unusual for so many from one agency," said Graves. "It seems every class, any given academy, there are probably two or three who don't get their paperwork done, don't get something submitted on time and we have to send them a letter. I don't think it was anything other than an administrative quirk."

Cronin, who was became chief in 2000 after serving 31 years with the Chicago Police Department, was among the officers who had worked uncertified for a time. He stepped down on Sept. 3 after a two-hour closed meeting with the City Council and has since taken command of the tribal police force on the Coeur D'Alene Indian Reservation.

He had reportedly argued with City Council members over firing the lieutenant in charge of the certification records. Said Graves: "He kind of gave them an ultimatum; he said 'It was him or me.' They gave him the opportunity for it to be him."

The city is currently conducting a search for a new chief. In the meantime, Capt. Wendy Carpenter has been made acting chief of 61-member department.

"This is hard for everybody," Mayor Sandi Bloem told The Associated Press.

Although as many as 8,000 cases could be affected by the turn of events, prosecutors and experts do not see that happening.

"The issue is whether or not the law empowered them to act as police officers without that diploma," Douglas told LEN. "And, of course, we're saying it does. They had de facto officer status."

There have been no appeals filed as yet by defense attorneys on closed cases, said Douglas. The finding will affect one pending case, however. On Oct. 18, the county attorney's office will argue that an officer who had completed the academy and field training, but not yet issued certification, was authorized to make a felony DUI arrest.

Douglas sent letters to 74 defense attorneys whose clients may be affected, and provided them with the names of the officers in question.

"It's an impossible task, going through police reports and convictions for the past 25 years and trying to determine was this officer certified at the time," he said.

Said Gary Haman, a former Kootenai County District Court judge: "You'd have to ask yourself 'Is it worth it?'" Haman presided over one of the two 1988 rulings that now make possible an appeal based on the certification issue.

Fitness compromise gives Utah union fits

The police union in Ogden, Utah, has flatly rejected a compromise offered by Mayor Matthew Godfrey in September for dealing with officers who fail a physical fitness test, which would have transferred them to non-sworn positions — possibly with lower pay — instead of firing them outright.

The 38-to-4 vote against the proposal by members of the Ogden Police Benefit Association was the latest salvo in a fight that has been brewing for months as the November deadline for passing the exam approaches.

The standards were implemented over the past few years as part of an insurance policy with Utah Risk Management Mutual Association. Ogden was among the first of 19 area law-enforcement agencies to adopt them. They were approved by the union after a 1998 study to test for baseline fitness among officers, according to a report in The Deseret News.

To pass, officers must run a mile and a half in 15:54, bench-press at least 75 percent of their body weight one time, complete 25 push-ups, finish 35 sit-ups in one minute and make a vertical leap of at least 16 inches. Twenty of the department's 132 officers had still not successfully completed all parts of the test as of the union vote.

"I personally find it absurd that somebody from the department can be fired because they can only jump 15 inches and not 16 inches," Sgt. Chad Ledford, president of the police association, told The News.

But Godfrey contends that it is important there be one fitness standard for the whole department. In response to charges made by the association that the test will hurt female officers and those who have sustained injuries on the job, there is, to date, just one female officer who has failed to pass, he said.

"The injured officer issue is part of the reason for having the policy in

place," Godfrey said in an interview with Law Enforcement News. "If an officer gets injured on the job, or off the job, in such a way that they're not able to perform their function...it's important for the police force, it's important for the community, to know that. If they can no longer chase down a suspect, or they don't have the strength to handcuff them, that's important for us to know."

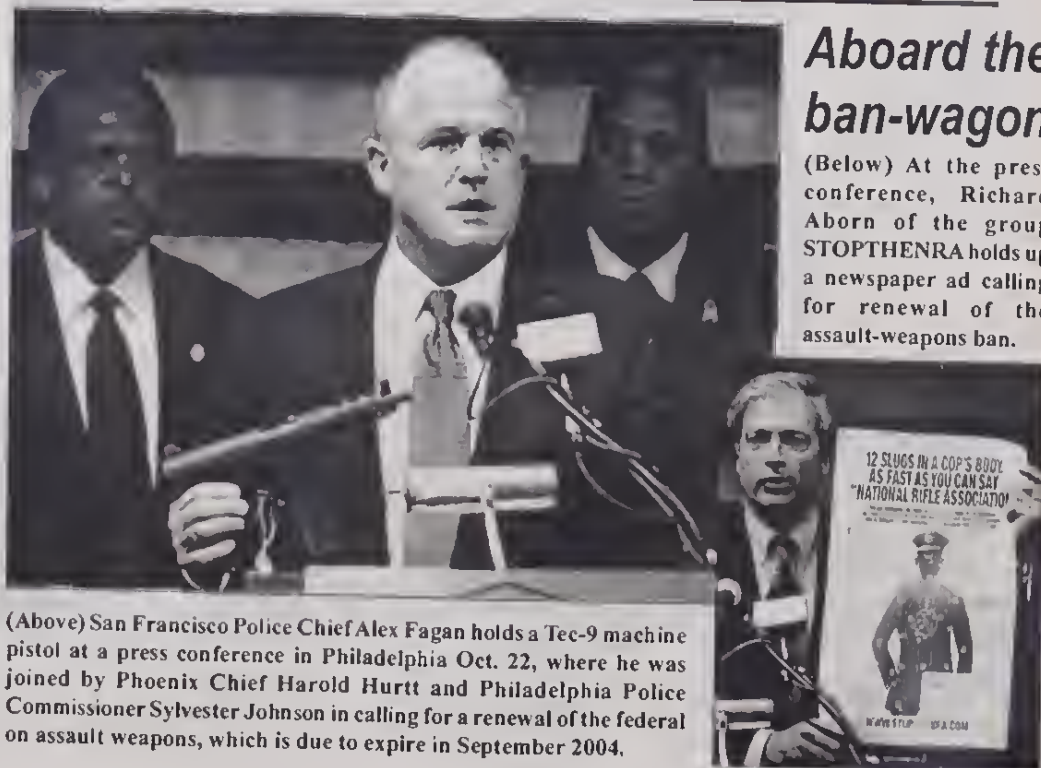
In that case, he said, officers will be rehabilitated for their job, retrained for another job, or become eligible for disability.

"Part of it is saying we need to acknowledge that things happen over time, and it's important for everyone to be aware of physical limitations that occur on or off the job so we can deal with those appropriately," said Godfrey.

While officers do agree with certain aspects of the fitness proposal, Ledford said their concern lies with the consequences for veteran officers and investigators. Two detectives, Jim Gent and Derek Draper, have been warned against participating in parts of the tests. For Gent, it is the bench press, which could cause a flare-up of an elbow injury he sustained seven years ago. Draper has had two shoulder surgeries stemming from on-the-job injuries.

In a letter to the mayor rejecting his proposed compromise, the association pointed to a decrease in violent crime of 6.5 percent since 2000, and an arrest rate that has risen by 36 percent for adults and 21 percent for juveniles.

"Whereas these encouraging statistics are not the result of a proportionately larger force, they must be the consequence of a police department endowed with high morale and access to an ever-increasing reserve of experience and institutional knowledge — all certain to be greatly damaged by the implementation of your proposed policy," the association said.



(Above) San Francisco Police Chief Alex Fagan holds a Tec-9 machine pistol at a press conference in Philadelphia Oct. 22, where he was joined by Phoenix Chief Harold Hurtt and Philadelphia Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson in calling for a renewal of the federal on assault weapons, which is due to expire in September 2004.

Aboard the ban-wagon

(Below) At the press conference, Richard Aborn of the group STOPTHENRA holds up a newspaper ad calling for renewal of the assault-weapons ban.

Munoz, Waslin:

No immigration duties for local cops

By Cecilia Munoz and Michele Waslin

Some in Congress are trying to use the issue of national security to peddle an anti-immigration agenda.

Pending in Congress right now is the Clear Law Enforcement for Criminal Alien Removal (CLEAR) Act. Representative Charlie Norwood (R.-Ga.) introduced the bill, which would require state and local police officers to enforce federal immigration laws.

What this means is that police officers would take on the additional role of becoming immigration agents. But deputizing local police to enforce federal immigration laws will not make our communities safer.

State and local law enforcement agencies already have the tools they need to arrest and detain dangerous criminals, including the full power to arrest non-citizens involved in criminal activity and to make arrests based on criminal immigration violations.

"If police start enforcing immigration laws... ethnic minorities will become fearful of reporting crimes or coming forward as witnesses."

Current law also provides mechanisms for state and local police agencies to enter into agreements with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement if they choose to do so. (Only one state, Florida, has chosen that option.)

Many police chiefs and police associations, as well as other law enforcement experts around the country, have spoken out against expanded immigration enforcement. They believe it will actually undermine public safety.

Police officers know that their ability to protect our neighborhoods depends on building strong relationships with all members of the community. Community-based policing efforts have been successful. In Latino communities, for example, the Department of Justice found that violent crime

against Latinos dropped by 56 percent during the 1990s once such efforts got under way.

But if police start enforcing immigration laws — or are perceived to be enforcing immigration laws — trust between law enforcement and the community will erode, and Latinos and other ethnic minorities will become fearful of reporting crimes or coming forward as witnesses.

Already, there have been stories of immigrants being put through deportation proceedings after reporting crimes. In Rhode Island, immigration officials arrested Danny Sigui, an undocumented immigrant and father of three, just two days after he served as a key witness in a murder case. The fear of deportation could prevent many other undocumented residents from reporting knowledge

of crimes, including terrorist activity, to police officers.

What's more, state and local police officers are not trained in the complexities of immigration law. As a result, involving local police in immigration law enforcement is likely to lead to errors, racial profiling, discrimination and costly litigation.

Finally, forcing police to do immigration work would divert limited resources that could be better spent on other law enforcement activities that have a greater impact on public safety.

We will all be safer if the police are allowed to focus on what they do best — fighting crime and protecting the public.

(Cecilia Munoz is vice president for policy and Michele Waslin is senior immigration policy analyst at the National Council of La Raza, the nation's largest Latino advocacy group. This article was distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.)

Hutchinson:

One-stop shopping for terrorist screening

By Selena P. Hutchinson

So how has our government improved since the battle on terrorism began? Space and time do not permit a lengthy discussion; however, one initiative clearly stands out. Most of us directly involved in law enforcement have daily personal contact with words like "terrorist," "watch list" or "screening." These words are in the news on a daily basis and are being used by ordinary citizens. These words are being combined to create a new efficient tool for law enforcement in the fight against terrorism.

The hundreds of thousands of local law enforcement officers directly involved in all issues relating to national security and the safety of our citizens have a key role in winning the battle. These

officers generate millions of inquiries into national criminal justice databases in the routine performance of their duties. According to Deputy Superintendent Bill Casey of the Boston Police Department, who chairs the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Advisory Policy Board, "It is imperative that officers making routine queries have immediate access to a comprehensive and accurate list of terrorists."

The Terrorist Screening Center (TSC) is an interagency initiative that will provide one-stop shopping for terrorist screening information. The Homeland Security Presidential Directive HSPD-6, titled "Integration and Use of Screening Information to Protect Against Terrorism," directed the Attorney General, acting through the Director of

the FBI, and in coordination with the secretaries of State and Homeland Security and the Director of Central Intelligence, to establish the TSC to consolidate the U.S. Government's approach to terrorism screening and provide appropriate and lawful use of terrorist information in the screening process.

A multi-agency team started aggressively developing and establishing the TSC immediately after HSPD-6 was signed this September. The vision of how the system will work starts with a local law enforcement officer's encounter with a suspicious person. Is the person a suspected terrorist? Is he on a federal watch list with the State Department, FBI or DHS? Instead of contacting multiple agencies to check out this individual, a

query of the TSC data will provide law enforcement officers with an answer quickly and efficiently.

The TSC will provide screening support services on a 24/7 basis to assist federal, state, local, territorial and tribal government organizations when a suspected terrorist is encountered. The TSC will assist in the positive identification of persons screened and then facilitate the decision to take appropriate action by coordinating with other agencies. Pertinent information, such as the identification of other persons associated with the individual, will be fed back to the originating source.

Beginning on December 1, 2003, the TSC will provide a single access point for terrorist screening data and a consolidated call center for encounter identification assistance to field screening processes. Beyond the direct support of law enforcement officers, the TSC is keenly interested in ensuring that innocent people are not repeatedly misidentified as suspected terrorists or unduly inconvenienced during the screening process.

Later in 2004, other private sector organizations responsible for critical infrastructure facilities and major events will be able to submit queries and obtain handling assistance. Plans are already in place for sharing terrorist screening information with cooperating countries.

Our government is responding to the concerns of both the American people and law enforcement organizations at all levels by creating the Terrorist Screening Center, whose sole mission is to aid in screening for terrorists before they can do harm. Cooperation, coordination, information sharing and consolidation of functions are hallmarks of good government and the TSC.

(Selena P. Hutchinson, a 14-year veteran of the FBI, is the bureau's program coordinator for the TSC. She has a master's degree in information systems. For more information on the TSC, call 1-866-872-5678, or email tsc@techtrack.gov.)

Note to Readers:

The opinions expressed on the Forum page are those of the contributing writer or cartoonist, or of the original source newspaper, and do not represent an official position of Law Enforcement News.

Readers are invited to voice their opinions on topical issues, in the form of letters or full-length commentaries. Please send all materials to the editor.



"I understand you keep a list of who's naughty and nice . . . You know, we could really USE that information."

Concealed-weapon laws grow

Continued from Page 1
proper permission.

Sheriffs must fingerprint applicants, and verify whether the individual has a felony or weapons offense anywhere in the country, has been dishonorably discharged from the military, judged mentally incompetent, or found guilty of a violent misdemeanor, two drunken driving cases, or has a pending order of protection. If the background check is not completed within 45 days, the permit must be issued.

St. Louis County Police Chief Ronald Battelle and Sheriff James W. Murphy were against the law from the start. While they said their offices would administer the law as directed, they did not know how they would be able to obtain information such as non-criminal mental health records, such as civil commitments.

"We may have to...call the police where they live and they may tell us that this guy has some mental problems," Battelle told The St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "I don't know what else is out there."

Those concerns are shared by Dane County, Wis., Sheriff Gary Hamblin. One of only five states in the nation that still prohibit citizens from carrying con-

cealed weapons, lawmakers in Wisconsin want to change that, over the opposition of Wisconsin's law-enforcement community.

Proposed legislation there is similar to that enacted in Missouri, but extends by two years the validity of permits, and shortens the time frame for investigating applicants to 21 days. Like Missouri's law, the Wisconsin proposal would deny a permit to anyone treated for a mental illness, chronic drug or alcohol abuse or a physical impairment that would prevent the safe handling of a weapon.

"It requires a sheriff to make a judgment on a permit, considering factors we have no way of determining," Hamblin told LEN. "If somebody walks out of a mental health unit in one of our local hospitals and applies for a gun permit, I would have no legal way of checking to see if that person had ever received mental health, or alcohol or drug treatment."

Further, if someone who already has a permit becomes mentally ill, or loses a limb, said Hamblin, a sheriff may not know and thus cannot revoke a license, as is required under the bill.

Paperwork is also an issue, Hamblin said, noting that if passed, the bill would

force the issuance of licenses to the top of the pile, ahead of criminal matters.

Louis Tolley, an expert on concealed-weapon laws for the Brady Center, a gun-control advocacy group, noted that recent laws have been passed by small margins. In Missouri, for example, the state Senate barely got the two-thirds majority it needed to override Holden's veto.

"They were very close fights last year," when the bills were defeated, and "they're very close fights this year," Tolley told LEN. "One of the changes that you see is that the bills are actually written much more narrowly than in the past.... I think part of what we're seeing is that the proponents have been willing to moderate. We think the bills are still pretty extreme, but they've been willing to make pretty major changes, and indeed take a lot of criticism. The bill they passed in Colorado, the local concealed-weapon people are very angry about it. The bill they passed in New Mexico, they were very angry about it."

It is as if the NRA, knowing they had a small window, have been "willing to cut deals" to get them done, said Tolley.

The concealed-weapon law in Colorado takes away from police chiefs and

sheriffs the discretion to set their own rules about who gets permits, and replaces it with a statute that says licenses must be issued to anyone who meets the criteria.

Gun-control advocates were not happy with the "shall issue" nature of the legislation, but neither were pro-gun activists pleased with provisions that bar weapons from public schools, buildings with security personnel and electronic screening, and private property where guns are prohibited by owners.

In fact, another law passed this year, which is now the subject of a lawsuit by Denver officials, Senate Bill 25, overrules most local ordinances, including those banning weapons in city parks, in the workplace and in liquor-related establishments.

Lawmakers in New Mexico passed a concealed-weapon law in March that requires holders to be 25 and to have classroom and field training in the caliber of weapon they want to carry, among other criteria. The state supreme court blocked a similar bill in 2001 because of a provision allowing cities to opt out of the law. The new legislation does not have that clause.

A poll released in September by The Minneapolis Star-Tribune showed that more than one-third of Minnesota's adults do not feel that a new concealed-weapon law signed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty in April will make any difference to their safety.

Under the law, applicants have to be 21, pass a background check and undergo mandatory training. While sheriffs may deny the application of someone they believe is a danger, applicants can obtain a speedy court appeal. Nearly 8,000 permits were issued between June and September, with another 2,300 pending.

According to the newspaper's poll, the proportion of residents who believe the law will have no effect on safety rose from 10 percent in April to 35 percent in September. Those who say the

Fed grants seek to close gun loopholes

State agencies and courts will be provided with \$375 million annually over the next three years to fix what both gun rights advocates and gun control proponents agree is a flawed system that allows too many illegal immigrants, spouse abusers, felons and those with a history of mental illness to purchase weapons legally.

The funds will be used to upgrade databases on those banned from owning handguns. States that do not meet performance markers risk having their federal grant money cut.

According to a 2002 study by Jim Kessler, policy director for the group Americans for Gun Safety, bad record-keeping permitted nearly 10,000 people in a single three-month period to pass background checks and purchase weapons even though they fell into banned categories.

"We think this is a step in the right direction," Andrew Arulanandam, a spokesman for the National Rifle Association, told The New York Times. He added that, with the backing of Senator Larry E. Craig, an Idaho Republican and N.R.A. board member, and Representative John Dingell, a Michigan Democrat and gun rights supporter, "We're confident that this legislation will help bring about the promise of an instant gun check for Americans."

The measure is also supported by two ardent gun-control supporters in Congress, Senator Charles E. Schumer and Representative Carolyn McCarthy, both Democrats from New York.

state will be more dangerous dropped from 55 percent in April to 51 percent, and those who say it will make Minnesotans safer fell from 17 percent earlier in the year to 11 percent.

Headlines are not enough

Affirmative-action programs looking a little black & blue

The jury is still out on community policing

Sculpting the officer of the future

Time to rethink academy & field training

Maternity-leave

Force is too much

To do a tough job in changing times, you need timely, comprehensive, straightforward information. For the latest trends and ideas, turn to **Law Enforcement News**. We'll put you in touch with the thinking of those who are shaping law enforcement policy and practice.

YES! I'm ready for the professional advantage of **Law Enforcement News**. Enter my one-year subscription and bill me just \$28.00. (Return the coupon to LEN, 555 W. 57th Street, New York, NY 10019.)

Name/Title _____

Agency _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Law Enforcement News

(11153003)

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

Agency mergers have their appeal

Continued from Page 1
merged into one law enforcement agency on Sept. 1.

The unification is aimed at expanding coverage for 9,700 residents.

"The merger will be more economical for all the municipalities involved and will boost the police presence and number of hours of police protection for each municipality," said Hallam Borough manager Norman Meiskey.

The new agency will have 10 officers, with Wrightsville Chief Blaine Quickel in command after Hellam Township Chief Mike Dupler retires this year.

An all-mail ballot will decide on Nov. 4 whether the city of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County join to become Albuquerque-Bernalillo County, with one police chief and no sheriff.

Supporters say the move would eliminate duplication, but detractors argue that city interests would dominate those of rural residents.

The plan is strongly opposed by Sheriff Darren White, who, prior to his election, had served from 1995 to 2000 in the appointed job as secretary of the state Department of Public Safety.

"The purest form of accountability

is on Election Day," he told The Albuquerque Journal. "I felt this is nothing more than a referendum for the city to annex the rest of the county."

White's stand is supported by rank-and-file police officers and deputies.

Washington County, Ore., commissioners rejected a ballot measure in August that would have merged 12 police departments into a single countywide agency.

The proposal was made by the Citizens for Optimum Police Services (COPS). In 2001, a poll taken by the organization indicated that 56 percent of the 400 county residents surveyed were in favor of the consolidation, and 39 percent opposed it.

Ron Massey, its treasurer, told commissioners that having one force would save the county millions of dollars a year in overtime and administrative costs. It would also enhance officer safety by standardizing training, equipment and procedures.

"Each city is unique," Beaverton Mayor Rob Drake told The Oregonian. "The decision of how to provide law enforcement and govern their respective cities is between the elected leaders and the citizens of each city."

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

10-11. Managing the Internal Affairs Unit. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Oswego, N.Y.

10-12. Low Light Survival Shooting Instructor Course. Presented by Streamlight Academy. San Diego. \$350.

12-14. Multi-Agency Incident Management for Law Enforcement & Fire Service. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. St. Peters, Mo.

12-14. Use of Force Instructor Certification Course. Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. Harrisburg, Pa. \$495.

13-14. Preventing & Reducing Elderly Victimization. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Phoenix.

15. Expanded Tactical Folding Knife Course. Presented by Northeastern Tactical Schools. Northboro, Mass.

17-18. Managing Criminal Investigations. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Mooresville, N.C.

17-18. Civil Remedies for Nuisance Abatement. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Salem, N.C.

17-19. Low Light Survival Shooting Instructor Course. Presented by Streamlight Academy. Fairfax, Va. \$350.

17-21. Advanced Criminal Investigative Analysis (Criminal Profiling). Presented by the Alpha Group for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. Fredericksburg, Va. \$525.

17-21. Teaching Diversity: Train-the-Trainer for Law Enforcement Professionals. Presented by the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration. Dallas. \$545.

22. Expanded Tactical Folding Knife Course. Presented by Northeastern Tactical Schools. Northboro, Mass.

DECEMBER

1-3. First Line Supervision. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Lakeland, Fla.

1-3. Contemporary Patrol Administration. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. North Charleston, S.C.

1-5. Crime Analysis Training. Presented by the Alpha Group for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. Fort Lauderdale, Fla. \$525.

4-5. Managing Police Technology. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Phoenix.

6. Expanded Tactical Folding Knife Course. Presented by Northeastern Tactical Schools. Simsbury, Conn.

8-9. Managing the New Breed — Generation X in Law Enforcement. Sparks, Nev.

8-10. Crisis Negotiations. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Lakeland, Fla.

8-10. Advanced Internal Affairs: Proactive Steps for Corruption Prevention. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Winter Haven, Fla.

8-12. Criminal Intelligence Analysis Training. Presented by the Alpha Group for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. El Paso, Texas. \$525.

8-12. Interviewing Child Victims & Suspects. Presented by the Delinquency Control Institute. Lake Arrowhead Lodge, Calif.

10-11. Police Leadership: Managing the Future. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Sparks, Nev.

10-12. Conducting Homicide Investigations. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Salem, N.C.

10-12. Criminal Investigative Techniques I. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Ocala, Fla.

13. Expanded Tactical Folding Knife Course. Presented by Northeastern Tactical Schools. Simsbury, Conn.

15-17. Criminal Investigative Techniques II. Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Ocala, Fla.

17-19. Use of Force Instructor Certification Course. Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. Fort Lauderdale, Fla. \$495.

For further information:

Addresses & phone/fax numbers for organizations listed in calendar of events.

Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training, P.O. Box 8, Montclair, CA 91763. (909) 989-4366 Fax: (909) 476-8271. Web: <www.alphagroupcenter.com>.

Delinquency Control Institute, 3601 S. Flower St., Los Angeles, CA. (213) 743-2497. Web: <www.use.edu/dept/sppd/dci>.

Executive Protection Institute, Highlander Lodge, P.O. Box 802, Berryville, VA 22611. (540) 554-2540.

Institute for Law Enforcement Administration, 5201 Democracy Dr., Plano, TX 75024. Web: <222.theilea.org>.

International Association of Chiefs of Police, 1-800-THE-IACP. Fax: (703) 836-4543.

National Criminal Justice Training Council, P.O. Box 1003, Twin Lakes, WI

53181-1003. (262) 279-5735. Fax: (262) 279-5758. Email: <ncjtc@aol.com>. Web: <www.ncjtc.org>.

National Tactical Officers Association, (800) 279-9127, ext. 35. Web: <www.ntoa.org>.

Northeastern Tactical Schools, P.O. Box 591, Nutting Lake, MA 01865. (978) 667-5591.

Pennsylvania State University, Penn State Justice & Safety Institute, (814) 863-0079.

Southern Police Institute, University of Louisville, (502) 852-6561. Fax: (502) 852-0335. Web: <www.louisville.edu/a-s/ja/spi>.

Streamlight Academy, 1-800-393-0705. Email: <info@shirazmarketing.com>. Web: <www.streamlight.com>.

We're Making a List...

Opportunities for professional development are listed free of charge in the Upcoming Events section of LEN, and are posted on a first-come, first-served basis. Please mail, fax or e-mail items to Upcoming Events, LEN, 555 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

Forgoing lassos, rustlers have S. Dakota ranchers reeling

Modern-day cattle rustlers who use scams rather than lassos to steal livestock have caused an estimated \$12-million loss to ranchers in South Dakota in recent months, according to state officials.

Statistics compiled by the South Dakota State Brand Board, the authority that polices cattle theft, show that reported crimes increased by 300 percent between 2001 and 2002. But unlike the cattle thieves of yesteryear, the modern-day rustler is more likely to commit a fraud than actually back a truck up and steal the animals.

Complaints are heard daily said Jerry Derr, the board's director of investigations. One victim, for example, placed a down payment on a South Dakota ranch that, when seen from the air, appeared to show pastures with herds of cattle. There was just one problem: The property belonged to someone other than the seller.

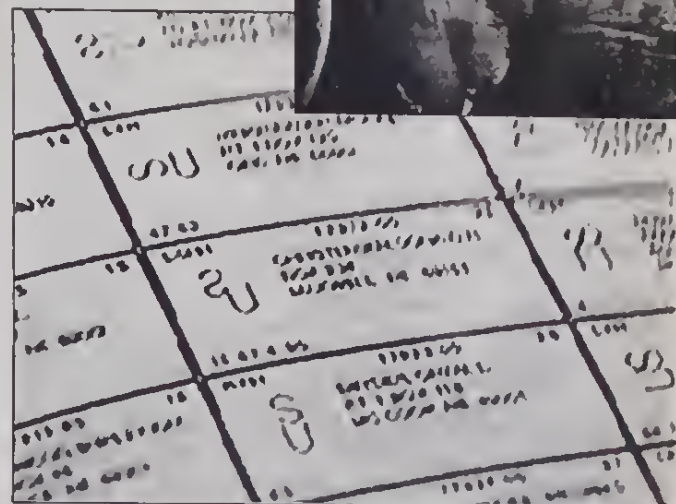
Even those familiar with ranching can be cheated, however. At the Britton, S.D., Livestock Auction, Mark Hove, who runs the company, found six yearling heifers, along with a cow and her calf missing in April.

And then there are still those cases where thieves simply broke into the pens. At the Watertown, S.D., Livestock Auction, Jerry Raasch lost 11 yearling steers worth \$400 each. "They just kind of took the gates off the hinges," he told The Minneapolis Star Tribune.

In addition to the financial loss, ranchers say they have also lost the trust they used to have in neighbors.

"This isn't a big city like Minneapolis; it's South Dakota, where you thought you could trust your neighbor and never have to lock your door," said Judy Radermacher, who trusted a former

Individual brands (right) are tracked in a master volume. Thorough record-keeping doesn't always stop modern rustlers.



neighbor to brand and sell her cattle, but saw no return.

The neighbor, Arthur Hanson, was convicted in March of stealing more than \$800,000 worth of cattle. He was sentenced to six months in jail.

In some cases, ranchers and auctioneers have been willing to put up rewards that nearly match the value of the stolen livestock. When \$6,750 worth of cows were found missing, Hub City Livestock put up a \$5,000 reward, in addition to the \$1,000 offered by the Brand Board.

According to Ron Ragsdale, a lawyer and rancher who owns a 30,000-acre spread between Wall and Rapid City, one problem is the silence of auction barns, which have a "don't look,

don't ask" policy.

The barns collect a standard commission of 2 percent of sales, which can translate into tens of thousands of dollars within minutes. When a report of stolen cattle is made however, authorities can shut the business down for weeks until the rightful owner claims the livestock — a process that can cost the barns a fortune.

"The cattle industry is full of high tension and big dollars, and the aggressive people buying and selling beef have a passion for going for the jugular," Ragsdale told The Star-Tribune. "When you lose cattle to theft, you lose money. And when profits fall, the blood on the floor gets deeper and deeper."

New policy guidance covers organ & tissue donation

Continued from Page 1

were under the same impression that when we respond to...a traffic accident, specifically, when a person is declared dead at the scene, most people figure, well, they're not viable to be an organ donor, thinking the major organs, heart, lung, kidneys, and that kind of thing," said Lt. Tom Fenner, who drafted the policy. "In that sense they're right."

But there are still things that they can donate, he told LEN. "People were not aware of that. So that's why we came up with this policy."

The protocol has not yet been implemented, but will become part of the agency's updated training manual, according to a report by The Oakland Tribune. Even before that is released, however, the guidelines will be reviewed during daily meetings, said Fenner.

If the deceased was the victim of a homicide or other criminal act, then recovery of the tissue could affect a trial or investigation. The coroner's office would have to contact the district attorney's office to see if there were any objections to removing the tissue. The

coroner does not need permission from family members to do so if the victim expressed wishes to be a donor.

"It won't change anything we do at the scene, it's just an extra step," Fenner told The Tribune. "The only difference is that we will pass along that information. It's a vital information link that wasn't there before."

But such calls are rare, said Lt. Pat Adams of the Alameda County sheriff's office. "[We] have not fielded any of these calls to anybody's memory," he told LEN.

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) seeks to fill two senior-level positions in the Research Unit:

Law Enforcement Practitioner—will be primarily responsible for developing and managing projects and translating research findings into practical law enforcement tools. Preference given to individuals with good writing and management skills, advanced degree, experience acquiring and managing grants, experience working in a progressive law enforcement environment, and knowledge of police information systems and/or technology.

Methodologist/Statistician—will be responsible for directing a wide array of unit projects, managing staff, and securing project funding. Applicants should have a Ph.D. in Criminology, Criminal Justice or a related field; writing and methods/statistics skills; and experience conducting law enforcement research. Preference given to individuals with strong management skills, proposal writing skills, and knowledge of police information systems and/or technology.

For more information on either position, please sign in as a "guest" at www.policeforum.org and click on "Employment."

To apply for either position, send letter of interest and resume to PERF:

Attn: Larle Fridell, Director of Research
1120 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 930
Washington, DC 20036

Law Enforcement News

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

Vol. XXIX, Nos. 609, 610

November 15/30, 2003

Lock & load:

Why some police execs are concerned at the continued growth of state concealed- weapons laws. Story, Page 1.



The big-city boot:

Dissatisfaction simmers in some quarters as chief in Dallas and Portland are unceremoniously ousted. Page 5.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY
Law Enforcement News
555 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
New York, N.Y.
Permit No. 1302

What They Are Saying:

"[Kroeker] brought a certain esprit de corps to the bureau. He made you feel good about being a police officer."

— Detective Pete Simpson, editor of the Portland (Ore.) Police Association's monthly newspaper, on ex-chief Mark Kroeker, who was forced out after three and a half years in command. (Story, Page 5.)